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Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2019-20

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health

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FHB(FE)249	6306	KWOK Ka-ki	139	(2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
FHB(FE)250	6498	KWOK Ka-ki	139	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
FHB(FE)251	7244	KWONG Chun-yu	139	-
FHB(FE)252	3404	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	139	(2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
FHB(FE)253	3405	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	139	(3) Environmental Hygiene
FHB(FE)254	7281	MO, Claudia	139	(2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
FHB(FE)255	3970	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	139	(2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
FHB(FE)256	3971	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	139	(2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety
FHB(FE)257	3742	CHAN Chi-chuen	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)258	5582	CHAN Chi-chuen	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)259	5585	CHAN Chi-chuen	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)260	3461	CHAN Hak-kan	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)261	3789	CHAN Han-pan	22	-
FHB(FE)262	5763	CHAN, Tanya	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
FHB(FE)263	5765	CHAN, Tanya	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)264	5777	CHAN, Tanya	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)265	5791	CHAN, Tanya	22	-
FHB(FE)266	5795	CHAN, Tanya	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)267	6455	CHAN, Tanya	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)268	6457	CHAN, Tanya	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)269	6458	CHAN, Tanya	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)270	6459	CHAN, Tanya	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)271	3954	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)272	4844	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)273	4846	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)274	4847	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)275	4848	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)276	4851	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)277	6837	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)278	6996	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
FHB(FE)279	4227	CHOW Ho-ding, Holden	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)280	4192	CHU Hoi-dick	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)281	4193	CHU Hoi-dick	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)282	4999	CHU Hoi-dick	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)283	4559	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)284	3559	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)285	3560	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)286	3561	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)287	3562	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)288	3563	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)289	3564	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)290	3566	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)291	3567	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)292	3568	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)293	3569	HO Chun-yin,	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
		Steven		Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)294	3571	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)295	3572	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)296	3581	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)297	3583	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)298	3585	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)299	3586	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)300	3588	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)301	7212	HO Chun-yin, Steven	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)302	3799	KWOK Ka-ki	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)303	3806	KWOK Ka-ki	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)304	5607	KWOK Ka-ki	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)305	5906	KWOK Ka-ki	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)306	6474	KWOK Ka-ki	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)307	6486	KWOK Ka-ki	22	-
FHB(FE)308	4431	KWONG Chun-yu	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)309	4432	KWONG Chun-yu	22	(2) Nature Conservation and

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				Country Parks (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)310	4435	KWONG Chun-yu	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)311	4436	KWONG Chun-yu	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)312	4438	KWONG Chun-yu	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)313	4446	KWONG Chun-yu	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)314	4448	KWONG Chun-yu	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)315	4458	KWONG Chun-yu	22	(2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)316	3489	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)317	3490	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)318	3491	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)319	3652	MA Fung-kwok	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)320	4244	SHIU Ka-fai	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)321	4503	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)322	4505	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)323	4506	TAM Man-ho,	22	(3) Animal, Plant and

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
		Jeremy		Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)324	4511	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	22	(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
FHB(FE)325	4686	WU Chi-wai	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)326	4687	WU Chi-wai	22	(1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
FHB(FE)327	6019	CHAN, Tanya	48	-
FHB(FE)328	6365	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	48	(1) Statutory Testing
FHB(FE)329	7217	CHOW Ho-ding, Holden	48	(1) Statutory Testing
FHB(FE)330	5575	CHAN Chi-chuen	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)331	5577	CHAN Chi-chuen	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)332	5578	CHAN Chi-chuen	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)333	5579	CHAN Chi-chuen	49	-
FHB(FE)334	5069	CHAN, Tanya	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)335	5115	CHAN, Tanya	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)336	5459	CHAN, Tanya	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)337	5764	CHAN, Tanya	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)338	5766	CHAN, Tanya	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)339	5769	CHAN, Tanya	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)340	5770	CHAN, Tanya	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)341	5801	CHAN, Tanya	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)342	5808	CHAN, Tanya	49	-
FHB(FE)343	6302	CHAN, Tanya	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)344	6456	CHAN, Tanya	49	-
FHB(FE)345	3953	CHEUNG Chiu-hung,	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health

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		Fernando		
FHB(FE)346	4814	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)347	6918	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)348	6919	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)349	6920	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)350	6921	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)351	6922	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)352	6923	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)353	6924	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)354	6925	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)355	6926	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)356	6927	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)357	6928	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)358	6929	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)359	6962	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)360	6985	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-

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FHB(FE)361	6986	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)362	6987	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)363	6990	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)364	6991	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)365	6992	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)366	7013	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)367	7123	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)368	7133	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	-
FHB(FE)369	7141	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)370	4196	CHU Hoi-dick	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)371	4197	CHU Hoi-dick	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)372	4966	CHU Hoi-dick	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)373	4967	CHU Hoi-dick	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)374	4982	CHU Hoi-dick	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)375	4996	CHU Hoi-dick	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)376	5001	CHU Hoi-dick	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)377	5394	CHU Hoi-dick	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)378	4558	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)379	3557	HO Chun-yin,	49	(1) Food Safety and Public

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		Steven		Health
FHB(FE)380	3592	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)381	3593	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)382	3594	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)383	3597	HO Chun-yin, Steven	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)384	4755	KWOK Ka-ki	49	-
FHB(FE)385	5238	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)386	5239	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)387	5240	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)388	5241	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)389	5242	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)390	5243	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)391	5244	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)392	5245	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)393	5246	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)394	5247	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)395	5248	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)396	5249	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)397	5250	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)398	5251	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)399	5252	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(4) Public Education and Community Involvement
FHB(FE)400	5253	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)401	5279	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control

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FHB(FE)402	5604	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)403	5606	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)404	6144	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)405	6145	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)406	6146	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)407	6147	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)408	6148	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)409	6149	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)410	6150	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)411	6151	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)412	6152	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)413	6153	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)414	6305	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)415	6307	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)416	6308	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)417	6310	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)418	6316	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)419	6317	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)420	6318	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)421	6324	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)422	6325	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)423	6492	KWOK Ka-ki	49	-
FHB(FE)424	4433	KWONG Chun-yu	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)425	3397	LEE Kok-long,	49	(1) Food Safety and Public

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		Joseph		Health
FHB(FE)426	3398	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)427	3399	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)428	3400	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)429	3401	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)430	3402	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)431	3403	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)432	3334	LEUNG Yiu-chung	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)433	3337	LEUNG Yiu-chung	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)434	3338	LEUNG Yiu-chung	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)435	3339	LEUNG Yiu-chung	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)436	3340	LEUNG Yiu-chung	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health (4) Public Education and Community Involvement
FHB(FE)437	4609	LEUNG Yiu-chung	49	-
FHB(FE)438	3515	MO, Claudia	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)439	3544	MO, Claudia	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)440	3364	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)441	6582	SHIU Ka-chun	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)442	4241	SHIU Ka-fai	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health
FHB(FE)443	5858	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)444	6060	TAM Man-ho, Jeremy	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)445	3957	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)446	4683	WU Chi-wai	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
FHB(FE)447	4684	WU Chi-wai	49	(3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)448	4685	WU Chi-wai	49	(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
FHB(FE)449	4956	YEUNG, Alvin	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
FHB(FE)450	5581	CHAN Chi-chuen	31	(5) Trade Controls
FHB(FE)451	7275	CHAN, Pierre	31	(5) Trade Controls
FHB(FE)452	6309	KWOK Ka-ki	31	(1) Control and Enforcement
FHB(FE)453	4238	SHIU Ka-fai	181	(2) Trade Support and Facilitation
FHB(FE)454	7283	KWOK Ka-ki	49	(1) Food Safety and Public Health

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)001

(Question Serial No. 0385)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work of the Political Assistants to the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), will the Government please provide the following information in the form of tables with a breakdown by policy subjects:

1. the number of occasions when the Political Assistants to SFH liaised with the Legislative Council on food and health policies in the past 2 years, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved; and
2. the number of occasions when the Political Assistants to SFH liaised with the 18 District Councils on food and health policies in the past 2 years, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

Political Assistant (PA) to the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) is responsible for, among others, assisting SFH in liaising with political parties, individual Legislative Council and District Council members, as well as relevant stakeholders to explain government policies and proposals. Political liaison is conducted from time to time, through multiple forms and on different occasions. We do not keep statistics on these activities.

The actual expenditure on the salary in respect of the position of PA to SFH for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are \$0.8 million and \$1.22 million respectively. PA is partially supported by one Assistant Clerical Officer in the Private Office of SFH.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)002

(Question Serial No. 2958)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the salaries, allowances, job-related allowances and related expenses to be incurred by the Office of the Secretary for Food and Health in 2019-20, please tabulate the following information:

- (1) the (i) salaries, (ii) allowances, (iii) job-related allowances, (iv) Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) contribution and (v) Civil Service Provident Fund contribution of (a) the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), (b) the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and (c) the Political Assistant (PA) to SFH in this financial year;

	(i) Salaries	(ii) Allowances	(iii) Job-related allowances	(iv) MPF contribution	(v) Civil Service Provident Fund contribution
(a) SFH					
(b) USFH					
(c) PA to SFH					

- (2) the estimated expenditures on allowances for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH in this financial year, including the following five categories of expenditures: (i) their medical and dental benefits, (ii) the medical and dental benefits of their spouses, (iii) their leave passage allowances, (iv) the leave passage allowances of their spouses and (v) cars and chauffeur services;

	(i) Medical and dental benefits	(ii) Medical and dental benefits of spouses	(iii) Leave passage allowances	(iv) Leave passage allowances of spouses	(v) Cars and chauffeur services

(a) SFH					
(b) USFH					
(c) PA to SFH					

- (3) the estimated expenditures on job-related allowances for (a) SFH, (b) USFH and (c) PA to SFH in this financial year, including the following three categories of expenditures: (i) official entertainment, (ii) passage for duty visits and (iii) security arrangements.

	(i) Official entertainment	(ii) Passage for duty visits	(iii) Security arrangements
(a) SFH			
(b) USFH			
(c) PA to SFH			

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

(1) The provisions reserved in the 2019-20 estimates for the salary in respect of the positions of the Secretary for Food and Health (SFH), the Under Secretary for Food and Health (USFH) and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Food and Health (PA to SFH) are \$4.08 million, \$3.06 million and \$1.22 million respectively. A sum of \$18,000 has been reserved each for the Mandatory Provident Fund contribution of the above mentioned positions.

(2) SFH, USFH and PA to SFH and their families are entitled to the same medical and dental benefits available to civil servants and their families. SFH is provided with the free use at her discretion of a car and driver in Hong Kong, while USFH and PA to SFH use government transport in compliance with the rules and regulations applicable to civil servants at comparable levels.

(3) The estimated expenditures on official entertainment and overseas duty visits for SFH's Office in 2019-20 are \$0.24 million and \$0.56 million respectively.

SFH, USFH and PA to SFH are not entitled to regularly-paid or job-related allowance, Civil Service Provident Fund contribution, leave passage allowance and security arrangements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)003

(Question Serial No. 0025)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards continuing to study the feasibility of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory to enhance its testing capability and operational efficiency for tests relating to food safety in 2019-20, please provide details, including the specific plan, the services and test quantities that can be increased, the items for which efficiency can be improved and the time expected to be shortened, the timetable for the reprovisioning and expansion, and the manpower required and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

The Government Laboratory (GL), including its Food Safety Laboratory, is currently short of laboratory area. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and GL have identified a suitable site for the construction of a new GL complex, and have consulted the relevant District Council (DC) earlier on. Having considered the views of the DC, we are revising the proposal and will consult the DC again. After we have completed the consultation and the technical assessments of the overall development plan, we will confirm the project details such as the project timetable and budget estimates. FHB and GL are handling the above-mentioned work with existing resources.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)004

(Question Serial No. 1689)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Programme (3) of this Head, the Government will oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets. In this regard:

1. Would the Government provide a tentative timetable for the construction of Tung Chung Public Market, which was announced to be built soon in last year's Policy Address?
2. How many resources will the Government allocate for Tung Chung Public Market to align with the Market Modernisation Programme?

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build a new public market in Tung Chung Town Centre, at the lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6. Further details of the new market project would be available upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward the planning of new markets, among other duties, with the support of 37 staff. The estimated staff cost in 2019-20 is about \$33.9 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)005

(Question Serial No. 1701)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Programme (3) of this Head, the Government will promote the application of technologies in the cleansing work of the environment, particularly targeting hygiene blackspots, and in mosquito and midge control as well as rodent control. Will the Government subsidise cleansing contractors to procure additional hi-tech equipment for the cleansing work? If so, please give a breakdown of the types of equipment to be acquired and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of environmental hygiene and pest control services through the use of machines and automation. The estimated expenditure in 2019-20 is about \$100 million. In addition to existing staff, dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use at suitable locations with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory. The estimated staff expenditure is about \$3.64 million.

After suitable technologies have been identified, the Department will conduct preliminary tests, make adjustments in the light of the local environment and actual conditions, and assess the feasibility, effectiveness and suitability of the technologies. Technologies that may enhance our services will be extended to suitable environments across the territory. Such technological solutions or equipment will be specified as part of the requirements of the Department's service contracts. There is no need for the Department to separately subsidize contractors to procure the technologies or equipment. Besides, contractors are encouraged to make suggestions on innovative application of technologies under proposed Execution Plan of the contract, which will increase their technical marks and hence their likelihood of tender award.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)006

(Question Serial No. 3229)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under Programme (2) of this Head that the estimate for 2019-20 is 16.8% higher than that for 2018-19. Please advise on the following:

1. Will the Bureau deploy more resources to ensure food safety, given that food safety is an issue of much concern among Hong Kong people?
2. Will additional manpower be devoted to the above area? If so, what are the details and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 49)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a task group, led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission and the Legislative Council Public Accounts Committee concerning the work of CFS in food safety management and import control. The task group has commenced comprehensive reviews on CFS' operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has started to roll out concrete and effective short, medium and long term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, and strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. In 2019-20, 35 additional civil service posts will be created in CFS along with an additional provision of \$25 million to implement the reviews and the enhancement measures.

In addition, CFS already put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk

assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)007

(Question Serial No. 3284)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work in relation to “guidelines and regulatory arrangements, including but not limited to those concerning harmful substances in food” under Programme (2) of this Head, please advise on the following:

In the past few years, food products have continually been tested to contain excessive amounts of salt and sugar, which can easily lead to public health problems. How will the Government set appropriate food safety standards? Will additional resources be allocated to bodies that are more authoritative for standard setting?

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau and the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) have been closely monitoring the international developments and measures relating to food safety, including making reference to the food safety standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other economies, as well as taking into account the local dietary practice and risk assessment results, to timely update the food safety standards and regulatory arrangements, on the basis of scientific evidence. FEHD has set up an Expert Committee on Food Safety, which consists of local and non-local food safety experts, academics and members of the trade, to advise CFS on food safety matters, including food safety standards.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)008

(Question Serial No. 1162)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the appeals against the ex-gratia allowance for the trawl ban, please advise on the following:

- (a) What are the respective expenditure and manpower involved in handling the appeals against the trawl ban in the past 3 years (from 2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What are the respective numbers of hearings completed each year since the hearings began, and the respective numbers of hearings being handled by the relevant department(s)?
- (c) What is the number of remaining hearings that have yet to be processed? What is the expected time for the Fishermen Claims Appeal Board ("FCAB") to complete the processing of all of the aforesaid appeal cases?
- (d) What are the employment or operating conditions in the past 3 years (from 2016-17 to 2018-19) of the fishermen who have been affected by the trawling ban, including the respective numbers of those who have switched to work in (i) other capture fishery industries, (ii) marine fish culture industry, (iii) fisheries industries other than (i) and (ii), and (iv) fisheries-related industries?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

(a)

The manpower of FCAB Secretariat and expenditure involved in handling the appeals received by FCAB from 2016-17 to 2018-19 are as follows:

Financial Year	Manpower of FCAB Secretariat (Number of Staff)	Expenditure (\$ million)
2016-17	5	3.9

2017-18	7	5.8
2018-19 (revised estimate)	7	6.7

The expenditure above includes both the staff and general operating costs of the Secretariat, as well as the fees for hiring outside legal advisers and other supporting services such as translation. The Food and Health Bureau housekeeps the operation of FCAB.

(b) & (c)

A total of 858 appeal applications from trawler owners have been received, of which 121 cases were subsequently withdrawn by the appellants as at mid-March 2019. Up to mid-March 2019, about 530 appeal cases have been heard. FCAB has issued decisions on over 440 appeal cases, of which 90 were allowed. The hearings for another 90 cases have been completed, pending drafting of judgements by legal advisers. In addition, 9 appeal cases from fish collector owners and 2 appeal cases from local deckhands have been received. In sum, about 75% of the appeals have been heard or withdrawn.

To ensure that the appeal cases are handled in a fair and just manner, all appeals are heard by FCAB, which would carefully examine and consider all information related to the cases. The workload involved in processing the appeals is exceptionally heavy, and it may require more than one hearing to conclude a complicated case. FCAB is served by a pool of chairmen and members who take turn to attend the hearings. To step up the capacity of appeal processing, 7 chairmen and 22 members were appointed in April 2017 to expand the pool of chairmen / members to serve on FCAB. As a result of the expansion, the frequency of holding hearings has since been increased. Given that the appeal cases vary in complexity, the time required to conclude all cases cannot be predicted.

(d)

The owners of about 320 inshore trawlers formerly operating in Hong Kong waters were most affected by the trawl ban. According to the information gathered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), about half of inshore trawlers have switched to operate in Mainland waters after receiving the relevant ex-gratia allowance (EGA), while about 50 trawler owners have switched to other forms of capture fishery or fish culture. The remaining trawler owners after receiving EGA either have withdrawn from the fishing industry or are no longer in contact with AFCD.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)009****(Question Serial No. 0291)**

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the overseeing of development of new public markets at selected locations:

- What are the locations of the new public markets that are confirmed to be built? What are the details? What is the estimated expenditure involved? Please list out the information in the table below.

District in which new public market(s) is/are confirmed to be built	Proposed site	Will air-conditioning facilities be installed?	Estimated number of stalls	Estimated average rental (per square metre)	Estimated expenditure involved

- What are the districts in which public markets are expected to be built? What are the details? What is the estimated expenditure involved? Please list out the information in the table below.

District in which new public market(s) is/are expected to be built	Proposed site	Will air-conditioning facilities be installed?	Estimated number of stalls	Estimated average rental (per square metre)	Estimated expenditure involved

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build two new public markets at the section of Tin Fuk Road outside Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway (MTR) Station and the lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6, which is adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station, respectively. According to the preliminary planning, at least 100 stalls will be provided in each of these two new markets. The Government has also initially identified suitable sites in the east of the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) for public markets. Well-connected by public transport and close to future train stations and public transport interchanges, these new sites will be more accessible to the public. Apart from the above, we are also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North NDA to build new markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets which will give the public more choices in purchasing fresh food.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning of new markets with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. Further details of the new market projects would be available upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)010

(Question Serial No. 2522)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to “oversee the re-issue of fixed-pitch hawker licences”, please provide information on the following:

- the relevant timetable and details as well as the estimated expenditure required;
- whether an expiry date will be set for a re-issued licence and, if so, the duration of the licence;
- whether the Government will consider setting up new fixed-pitch hawker areas (for example, in new towns) to prevent the number of licensed hawkers from decreasing.

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will invite applications for re-allocation of vacant hawker pitches and issue of new hawker licences in 2019. Upon receipt of the applications, the Department will vet the applications and check the eligibility of applicants. Random balloting procedure to determine the priority for selection of hawker pitch will then take place. Successful applicants will be invited to select vacant pitches and we expect the first batch of hawker licences to be issued in early 2020.

The work is performed by the Department with a team of 12 staff at an estimated annual expenditure of about \$6.7 million.

To promote healthy turnover of hawker licences and allow admission of new traders, the Department is considering the merits of specifying a licence operation validity period for new hawker licences issued under the registered assistants and general public categories, say

for 5 years. The Department would continue to listen to different views on the licence operation validity period.

The Department's priority task is to expeditiously re-allocate vacant pitches in existing fixed-pitch hawker areas so as to respond to the stakeholders' aspirations upon conclusion of the Hawker Assistance Scheme. We have no plans to set up new hawker areas at the moment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)011

(Question Serial No. 0791)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food Branch will promote the application of technologies in the cleansing work of the environment, particularly targeting hygiene blackspots, and in mosquito and midge control as well as rodent control.

1. Please give details on the specific work of the Government on promoting the application of technologies in the cleansing work of the environment.
2. What are the work objectives, implementation timetable, staff establishment involved and estimated expenditure for this financial year?
3. Will the above plan be implemented across the 18 districts in the territory? Are there any priorities for the control efforts? If so, what are the details?
4. Please provide a breakdown by district of the locations of all hygiene blackspots in the territory and state the criteria for assessing them.
5. Will the Government earmark expenditure or engage additional manpower for the establishment of a special team to carry out mosquito, midge and rodent control in rural areas where infestation is serious?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- 1 & 2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of environmental hygiene and pest control services through the use of machines and automation. The estimated expenditure in 2019-20 is about \$100 million. In addition to existing staff, dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use at suitable locations with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory. The estimated staff expenditure is about \$3.64 million. A summary of the technologies being used or piloted is provided at Annex I.

3. After suitable technologies have been identified, the Department will conduct preliminary tests, make adjustments in the light of the local environment and actual conditions, and assess the feasibility, effectiveness and suitability of the technologies. Technologies that may enhance our services will be extended to suitable environments across the territory.
4. The Department receives environmental hygiene complaints from members of the public through multiple channels, including reports pinpointing locations with unsatisfactory hygiene conditions. The Department will conduct investigation and take measures to abate the nuisance. Depending on the circumstances prevailing at individual locations, the Department will adjust the frequency of street cleansing and pest control operations and step up enforcement action as appropriate. There is no hard and fast definition of what a hygienic “black spot” is; the term is used to refer to an area where the cleanliness problem remains obstinate despite enhanced cleansing. A list of the top 5 locations in each of the 19 districts, as at March 2019, to which the Department devotes more efforts and resources in tackling the problem of illegal dumping of refuse is set out at Annex II.
5. The Department will continue to enhance pest control work and launch district-specific pest control measures, including publicity and educational programmes to promote greater community involvement, in addition to the regular pest control work and annual territory-wide publicity campaigns. Frontline staff of the Department also take into account complaint figures, the views of the local community and the public in identifying problematic locations for pest prevention and control work in both rural and urban areas.

- End -

Application of Technologies in Enhancing Environmental Hygiene and Pest Control

(a) Internet Protocol (IP) cameras

The Department plans to extend the IP Camera scheme for 2 years and will progressively increase to over 300 locations upon consultation with relevant stakeholders and District Councils (DCs).

(b) Solar-powered aluminium refuse collection points (RCPs)

The Department is considering the introduction of solar-powered aluminium RCPs in rural areas. A trial is expected to be carried out in April 2019.

(c) 360 degrees cameras

In the light of the experience of a pilot scheme, FEHD will consult the relevant DCs on the installation of cameras at 15 coastal sites after completion of privacy impact assessment

(d) Mini-mechanical sweepers

Mini-mechanical sweepers have been used in street cleansing in Tai Po and Yuen Long districts. The Department will identify other suitable places for using the sweepers.

(e) Pressure washer surface cleaners and leaf blowers

Since July 2018, deployment of the above equipment for street cleansing have been included in all relevant service contracts upon renewal.

(f) Solar-powered compacting refuse bins (compacting bins)

The Department has conducted a trial use of compacting bins for household waste collection since February 2018. An improved design will be put on trial from April 2019.

(g) Gravitrapp

A gravitrapp includes a sticky trap to collect adult mosquitoes that can provide quantitative results by counting the actual number of mosquitoes collected. The Department will conduct field trial of gravitrapp in the third quarter of 2019.

(h) Night-vision cameras

Night vision cameras with artificial intelligence (AI) function are used to analyse the extent and severity of the rodent problem so as to formulate more targeted rodent control measures. Trial will be conducted in March 2019.

(i) Thermal imaging cameras

Thermal imaging cameras with AI function can identify rodents' movements and facilitate rodent surveillance. Trial will commence in March 2019.

(j) Real-time dengue vector surveillance

The Department is developing an imaging system with AI function for recognizing adult Aedes mosquitoes laying eggs in ovitraps. Trial will be conducted in December 2019.

(k) Nara Bloc and Spray

Nara Bloc is a new product that contains non-poisonous bait claimed to have better attractiveness to rodents. Nara Spray may be applied to rodenticides and rodent traps to increase their attractiveness to rodents in order to achieve better poisoning and trapping effects. Trial is being conducted and will be completed by December 2019.

(l) In2Care

The In2Care Mosquito Trap lures and contaminates female mosquitoes with an insect growth hormone when they lay eggs in the trap. The female mosquitoes spread the hormone to other breeding sites to kill the larvae. Field trials will be conducted in mid-2019 and completed in December 2019.

(m) Rodent trapping devices driven by pressurised gas (A24)

The trapping device uses compressed carbon dioxide gas for driving a striker to kill rodents that touch the trigger. Trial is being conducted.

**Top Five Locations of Illegal Dumping of Refuse in Each District
(as at March 2019)**

District	Location
Central and Western	Li Yuen Street East
	Li Yuen Street West
	Elgin Street
	Staunton Street
	Davis Street near Hau Wo Street
Wan Chai	Outside Temporary Refuse Collection Point at Mount Butler Road
	No. 348 Hennessy Road
	No. 2 O'Brien Road
	Rear Lane of On On Building at Nos. 123-125 Lockhart Road
	Junction of Cannon Street and Jaffe Road
Eastern	Junction of Shing On Street and No.118 Shau Kei Wan Road
	Nos. 382-386 Shau Kei Wan Road, Shau Kei Wan
	No. 373 Shau Kei Wan Road, Shau Kei Wan
	Outside Nam On Street Public Toilet
	Outside A Kung Ngam Village Road Refuse Collection Point
Southern	Outside Lee Nam Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Temporary Refuse Collection Point opposite Pokfulam Village
	Junction of Hing Wo Street and Ka Wo Street outside Tin Wan Market
	Aberdeen Old Main Street
	Outside Chuk Hom Kok Temporary Refuse Collection Point
Islands	Outside Silver View Centre, Ngan Kwong Wan Road, Mui Wo
	Outside Mui Wo Pier Car Park, Mui Wo
	Tung Chung Road North near Lamppost FB8749 and FB8750
	Bin Site next to 44 Wang Long, Yung Shue Wan, Lamma Island
	Bin Site next to Lamppost BC0507, Chi Ma Wan Road, South Lantau
Yau Tsim	Star Ferry Pier, Tsim Sha Tsui
	Junction of Battery Street and Saigon Street
	Junction of Parkes Street and Bowring Street
	Junction of Dundas Street and Waterloo Road (outside Kwong Wah Hospital)
	Rear lane of Nos. 2 - 40 Portland Street

District	Location
Mong Kok	Outside Skyway House, No. 3 Sham Mong Road
	Pavement of Larch Street
	Junction of Poplar Street and Tai Nan Street (Outside Poplar Street Substation)
	Junction of Ferry Street and Shan Tung Street
	Junction of Ferry Street and Nelson Street (Outside Shun King Building)
Sham Shui Po	Junction of Ki Lung Street and Pei Ho Street
	Junction of Tai Nan Street and Pei Ho Street
	Pavement outside Fuk Wing Street Rest Garden
	Kim Sin Lane
	Junction of Kweilin Street and Lai Chi Kok Road
Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue North (near Gillies Avenue Post Office)
	Junction of Ma Tau Wai Road and Hok Yuen Street (near Hung Hom Square)
	Roundabout of Wan On Street
	No. 99 Dock Street
	Junction of York Road and To Fuk Road
Wong Tai Sin	Junction of Sam Chuk Street and Tsat Po Street, San Po Kong
	Kam Fung Street
	Yan Oi Street (near Lamp post no. AA7256)
	Rear lane of Nos. 19-33 Hong Keung Street
	Outside Hsin Kuang Centre at Ying Fung Lane
Kwun Tong	Lam Tin Estate near entrance of Saint Edward's Mass Centre (Lin Tak Road)
	Lam Tin MTR Station Exit A near Bank of China
	Under Footbridge at New clear Water Bay Road near Ngau Chi Wan Substation.
	Pavement at Choi Ha Road, opposite Jordan Valley Swimming Pool
	Outside Choi Shek Lane Refuse Collection Point
Kwai Tsing	Outside Tai Chuen Ping Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tam Kon Shan Road Refuse Collection Point
	Lam Tin Street
	Kwong Fai Circuit
	Shek Man Path

District	Location
Tsuen Wan	Outside Luen Yan Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Wo Yi Hop Village Refuse Collection Point
	Yi Pei Square
	Hau Tei Square
	Tai Pei Square
Tuen Mun	Outside Tsing Yeung Circuit Refuse Collection Point
	Outside San Hing Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Ho Fat Lane
	Tat Fuk Road near lamppost nos. BD2940 and BD2938
	Tin Tei Yan Road (near Tin Tei Yan Road Public Toilet)
Yuen Long	Outside Ka Lung Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Tao Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Shan Pui Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Long Ha Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tung Tai Wai San Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
North	Ho Sheung Heung Pai Fung Road near lamppost no. V5223
	Outside Kam Tsin (Fung Shui Grave) Refuse Collection Point
	Yip Fung Street Car Park, Fanling
	Bin Site near Lamppost no. EB5319 at Ping Yeung Village, Ta Ku Ling
	Outside Queen's Hill Refuse Collection Point
Tai Po	Outside Nam Hang Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Po Lookout Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Wong Yue Tan Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Pan Chung Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Shek Kwu Lung Village Refuse Collection Point
Sha Tin	Outside Siu Lek Yuen Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Sha Tin Wai Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside San Tin Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Fo Tan Village Refuse Collection Point
	Car Park near 8623 Tai Po Road – Sha Tin Heights
Sai Kung	Tong Ming Street and Po Hong Road (outside the Beverly Garden)
	Outside Yi Chun Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Fui Yiu Lane Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Pik Sha Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Chung Hau Village Refuse Collection Point

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)012

(Question Serial No. 0193)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding continuing to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating, what was the work progress made in 2018? What are the specific work plan and timetable for 2019, and the estimated manpower and resources required?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Department of Health (DH) announced "Towards 2025: Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong" in May last year. The targets include achieving a 30% relative reduction in the mean population daily intake of sodium, halting the rise in diabetes and obesity, and containing the prevalence of raised blood pressure by 2025.

FHB, the Centre for Food Safety, DH and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food are promoting salt and sugar reduction on various fronts as follows:

- (a) Starting from 2018/19 school year, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter. As at to-date, more than 350 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 34% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) have participated in the Charter and pledged to provide children with water and healthy drinks, not to provide drinks with added sugar or a relatively high sugar content, and not to use food as a reward;
- (b) DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches since 2017/18 school year. So far, 12 school lunch suppliers have joined the Scheme and provided over 1 500 sodium-reduced lunch options to about 490 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. about 85% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500mg in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch

decreased by 14% as compared to that of 2013, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018;

- (c) We launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017. At present, the labels are displayed on more than 230 prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" or "no sugar";
- (d) Since January this year, more than 500 restaurants involving over 100 brand names have supported our salt and sugar reduction scheme and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less salt and sugar dishes;
- (e) Several large-scale food manufacturers have reformulated, or undertaken to reformulate, their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups; and
- (f) We have been carrying out a wide range of publicity and educational efforts through various channels, including television, social media, the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction", promotional activities and competitions etc. In February 2019, we organised a large-scale promotional event to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture and new living style.

We will continue to promote salt and sugar reduction territory-wide along the above strategies. We will focus on encouraging more manufacturers/importers to display "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar" labels on pre-packaged food products, calling on more restaurants to participate in the salt and sugar reduction scheme and proactively motivating more local manufacturers to reformulate their products, so that the less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture will gradually take root in the community.

Promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide is our ongoing work. FHB has earmarked \$4.5 million in 2019-20 for implementing individual projects or publicity activities concerned. The manpower and other recurrent expenses concerned have been covered under FHB's overall allocation, and it is difficult to have a separate breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)013

(Question Serial No. 3287)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the promotion work for reducing salt and sugar in food, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the operational expense and number of officers on permanent establishment of the Secretariat of the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food (“the Committee”) in the past 2 years; and
- (b) the activities and projects run by the Committee in the past 2 years (set out by item)?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Department of Health (DH) announced “Towards 2025: Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong” in May last year. The targets include achieving a 30% relative reduction in the mean population daily intake of sodium, halting the rise in diabetes and obesity, and containing the prevalence of raised blood pressure by 2025.

FHB, the Centre for Food Safety, DH and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food are promoting salt and sugar reduction on various fronts as follows:

- (a) Starting from 2018/19 school year, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter. As at to-date, more than 350 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 34% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) have participated in the Charter and pledged to provide children with water and healthy drinks, not to provide drinks with added sugar or a relatively high sugar content, and not to use food as a reward;
- (b) DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches since 2017/18 school year. So far, 12 school lunch suppliers have joined the Scheme and provided over 1 500 sodium-reduced lunch options to about 490 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. about 85% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH’s target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the

average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500mg in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch decreased by 14% as compared to that of 2013, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018;

- (c) We launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017. At present, the labels are displayed on more than 230 prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" or "no sugar";
- (d) Since January this year, more than 500 restaurants involving over 100 brand names have supported our salt and sugar reduction scheme and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less salt and sugar dishes;
- (e) Several large-scale food manufacturers have reformulated, or undertaken to reformulate, their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups; and
- (f) We have been carrying out a wide range of publicity and educational efforts through various channels, including television, social media, the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction", promotional activities and competitions etc. In February 2019, we organised a large-scale promotional event to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture and new living style.

We will continue to promote salt and sugar reduction territory-wide along the above strategies. We will focus on encouraging more manufacturers/importers to display "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar" labels on pre-packaged food products, calling on more restaurants to participate in the salt and sugar reduction scheme and proactively motivating more local manufacturers to reformulate their products, so that the less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture will gradually take root in the community.

Promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide is our ongoing work. FHB has earmarked \$4.5 million in 2019-20 for implementing individual projects or publicity activities concerned. The manpower (including that of the Secretariat of the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food) and other recurrent expenses concerned have been covered under FHB's overall allocation, and it is difficult to have a separate breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)014

(Question Serial No. 2260)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-2020 that the Government will promote the application of technologies in the cleansing work of the environment, particularly targeting hygiene blackspots, and in mosquito and midge control as well as rodent control. In this connection, what are the specific plan and timetable? What are the staff establishment and expenditure to be involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 152)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of environmental hygiene and pest control services through the use of machines and automation. The estimated expenditure in 2019-20 is about \$100 million. In addition to existing staff, dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use at suitable locations with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory. The estimated staff expenditure is about \$3.64 million. A summary of the technologies being used or piloted is provided at Annex.

- End -

Application of Technologies in Enhancing Environmental Hygiene and Pest Control

(a) Internet Protocol (IP) cameras

The Department plans to extend the IP Camera scheme for 2 years and will progressively increase to over 300 locations upon consultation with relevant stakeholders and District Councils (DCs).

(b) Solar-powered aluminium refuse collection points (RCPs)

The Department is considering the introduction of solar-powered aluminium RCPs in rural areas. A trial is expected to be carried out in April 2019.

(c) 360 degrees cameras

In the light of the experience of a pilot scheme, FEHD will consult the relevant DCs on the installation of cameras at 15 coastal sites after completion of privacy impact assessment

(d) Mini-mechanical sweepers

Mini-mechanical sweepers have been used in street cleansing in Tai Po and Yuen Long districts. The Department will identify other suitable places for using the sweepers.

(e) Pressure washer surface cleaners and leaf blowers

Since July 2018, deployment of the above equipment for street cleansing have been included in all relevant service contracts upon renewal.

(f) Solar-powered compacting refuse bins (compacting bins)

The Department has conducted a trial use of compacting bins for household waste collection since February 2018. An improved design will be put on trial from April 2019.

(g) Gravitrapp

A gravitrapp includes a sticky trap to collect adult mosquitoes that can provide quantitative results by counting the actual number of mosquitoes collected. The Department will conduct field trial of gravitrapp in the third quarter of 2019.

(h) Night-vision cameras

Night vision cameras with artificial intelligence (AI) function are used to analyse the extent and severity of the rodent problem so as to formulate more targeted rodent control measures. Trial will be conducted in March 2019.

(i) Thermal imaging cameras

Thermal imaging cameras with AI function can identify rodents' movements and facilitate rodent surveillance. Trial will commence in March 2019.

(j) Real-time dengue vector surveillance

The Department is developing an imaging system with AI function for recognizing adult Aedes mosquitoes laying eggs in ovitraps. Trial will be conducted in December 2019.

(k) Nara Bloc and Spray

Nara Bloc is a new product that contains non-poisonous bait claimed to have better attractiveness to rodents. Nara Spray may be applied to rodenticides and rodent traps to increase their attractiveness to rodents in order to achieve better poisoning and trapping effects. Trial is being conducted and will be completed by December 2019.

(l) In2Care

The In2Care Mosquito Trap lures and contaminates female mosquitoes with an insect growth hormone when they lay eggs in the trap. The female mosquitoes spread the hormone to other breeding sites to kill the larvae. Field trials will be conducted in mid-2019 and completed in December 2019.

(m) Rodent trapping devices driven by pressurised gas (A24)

The trapping device uses compressed carbon dioxide gas for driving a striker to kill rodents that touch the trigger. Trial is being conducted.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)015

(Question Serial No. 0494)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

During 2019-20, the Food Branch will oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets. Please set out the breakdown of expenditure and staff establishment involved for each project.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of new markets and the Market Modernisation Programme with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)016

(Question Serial No. 0495)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

During 2019-20, the Food Branch will oversee the re-issue of fixed-pitch hawker licences and re-allocation of vacant hawker pitches with improved fire safety and operating environment. Please set out the breakdown of expenditure and staff establishment involved for each project.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

The work is performed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department with a team of 12 staff at an estimated annual expenditure of about \$6.7 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)017

(Question Serial No. 0496)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this programme, the estimated provision for 2019-20 is \$13.3 million (16.8%) higher than the revised estimate of funding provision for 2018-19. It is noted that this is mainly due to the increased provision for personal emoluments and other operating expenses, and dealing with any contingency measures arising from avian influenza incidents. Please elaborate by providing in detail a breakdown of the related expenditure and the staff establishment involved.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

The increase of \$13.3 million (16.8%) in the 2019-20 estimate of Programme 2 : Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety as compared with the 2018-19 revised estimate is mainly due to the retention of \$10 million to deal with any contingency measures arising from avian influenza incidents and increase in personal emoluments and personnel related expenses resulting from pay adjustment (+\$1.7 million). The same amount of \$10 million was included in the estimated provision for 2018-19 and was not used. The staff establishment for Programme 2 is estimated to be 34 in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)018

(Question Serial No. 1949)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. The Government has mentioned that it will continue to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating. Are there any new initiatives to achieve this year? If so, what are the details?
2. Have the current initiatives been evaluated for their actual effectiveness? If so, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Department of Health (DH) announced "Towards 2025: Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong" in May last year. The targets include achieving a 30% relative reduction in the mean population daily intake of sodium, halting the rise in diabetes and obesity, and containing the prevalence of raised blood pressure by 2025.

FHB, the Centre for Food Safety, DH and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food are promoting salt and sugar reduction on various fronts as follows:

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- (b) DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches since 2017/18 school year. So far, 12 school lunch suppliers have joined the Scheme and provided over 1 500 sodium-reduced lunch options to about 490 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. about 85% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500mg in ten

years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch decreased by 14% as compared to that of 2013, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018;

- (c) We launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017. At present, the labels are displayed on more than 230 prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" or "no sugar";
- (d) Since January this year, more than 500 restaurants involving over 100 brand names have supported our salt and sugar reduction scheme and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less salt and sugar dishes;
- (e) Several large-scale food manufacturers have reformulated, or undertaken to reformulate, their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups; and
- (f) We have been carrying out a wide range of publicity and educational efforts through various channels, including television, social media, the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction", promotional activities and competitions etc. In February 2019, we organised a large-scale promotional event to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture and new living style.

We will continue to promote salt and sugar reduction territory-wide along the above strategies. We will focus on encouraging more manufacturers/importers to display "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar" labels on pre-packaged food products, calling on more restaurants to participate in the salt and sugar reduction scheme and proactively motivating more local manufacturers to reformulate their products, so that the less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture will gradually take root in the community.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)019

(Question Serial No. 1950)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government mentioned that it would continue to study the feasibility of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory to enhance its testing capability and operational efficiency for tests relating to food safety. What is the expected time for completing the study and implementing the relevant measures?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

The Government Laboratory (GL), including its Food Safety Laboratory, is currently short of laboratory area. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and GL have identified a suitable site for the construction of a new GL complex, and have consulted the relevant District Council (DC) earlier on. Having considered the views of the DC, we are revising the proposal and will consult the DC again. After we have completed the consultation and the technical assessments of the overall development plan, we will confirm the project timetable.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)020

(Question Serial No. 1372)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government has implemented a new regulatory regime to strengthen the regulation of animal trading and dog breeding activities. In this regard, would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) What are the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (b) What are the numbers of various licences issued since the implementation of the new regime?
- (c) What are the numbers of complaints received, as well as regular inspections and surprise inspections conducted?
- (d) What is the number of prosecutions and what are the penalties imposed?
- (e) What is the estimated expenditure if the regime is to be extended to cover cats?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

- (a) In 2018-19, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) deployed 30 staff to regulate animal trading and dog breeding, with an estimated expenditure of \$17.7 million.
- (b) The number of applications for Animal Trader Licence (ATL), Dog Breeder Licence (DBL) and one-off permit received and approved since the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations) came into effect on 20 March 2017 and up to end February 2019 is tabulated as follows:

Licence / Permit	Number of applications			
	Received	Approved	Under processing	Withdrawn or rejected
ATL	706	632	24	50
DBL (category A)	38	24	4	10
DBL (category B)	59	38	12	9
One-off permit	7	4	0	3

- (c) The number of complaints related to animal trading and dog breeding activities received by AFCD between March 2017 and end of February 2019 was 712. The number of inspections (including routine ones and surprise checks) conducted in the same period was 9 466.
- (d) Between March 2017 and end February 2019, 47 cases of selling animals (45 cases involving dogs and 2 involving other animals) without a licence or permit have been successfully prosecuted. Offenders were fined between \$1,500 and \$20,000.
- (e) The Regulations came into effect on 20 March 2017 with a 1-year transitional period for the stakeholders concerned to enhance their facilities and adapt to the new requirements. We plan to start reviewing the effectiveness of the Regulations in 2019-20. Pending the outcome of the review, it is premature to say whether there would be any changes to the scope of the Regulations and, if so, the timing of implementation. The resources that may be involved for amending the regime, if necessary, cannot be estimated at this stage.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)021

(Question Serial No. 1373)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past 3 years, regarding handling of animal cruelty in Hong Kong, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the expenditures involved and the projects concerned? What were the percentages in the overall expenditures of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department?
- (b) How many reported cases of suspected animal cruelty were received by the Department?
- (c) What were the numbers of successful prosecutions instituted under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance? What were the minimum and maximum penalties imposed?
- (d) How many applications for review of cases under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance were lodged by the Department of Justice on the grounds that the penalties imposed were too lenient? What were the results of these appeals?
- (e) The Government has proposed reviewing the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance. What is the timeframe concerned?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on the prevention of animals cruelty, including enforcement of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) (the Ordinance), over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2016-17	2.9
2017-18	3.0
2018-19 (revised estimate)	3.2

The above represent around 0.2% of total recurrent expenditure incurred by AFCD in the respective years.

- (b) The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received by AFCD and the Hong Kong Police Force over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports
2016	262
2017	275
2018	368

Upon investigation, most of them were found to be related to nuisance with no elements of cruelty.

- (c) The number of successful prosecutions under the Ordinance and the relevant penalties over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of convicted defendants	Penalties imposed	
		Fine (\$) *	Range of imprisonment
2016	11	5,000	28 days to 6 months
2017	24	4,000	7 days to 1 year
2018 (up to September)	12	6,000	14 days to 1 year

* Only one case in all 3 calendar years involved a penalty of fine only.

- (d) Over the past 3 years, the Department of Justice (DoJ) has lodged two applications on the same case for review of sentence in respect of the charge of “Cruelty to animals” under the Ordinance. In one application, the sentence was increased from 3 to 4 months’ imprisonment. DoJ further applied to review this sentence, and the judgment of this appeal is yet to be released.
- (e) We aim to launch a 3-month public consultation exercise in mid-2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare. Our proposals would include raising the penalties for acts of cruelty to animals and introducing animal keepers’ responsibility of positive duty of care of animals.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)022

(Question Serial No. 1374)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the subvention for animal welfare organisations (AWOs), would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details with regard to the substantial increase in the Government's estimate from \$500,000 last year to \$1,500,000?
- (b) What are the criteria for approving applications for subvention? Has there been any change in respect of the increase in the estimate?
- (c) Please provide in tabular form the numbers and projects of successful applications for subventions, the amounts of subvention sought by AWOs and the amounts of subvention that they have been granted over the past 3 years.
- (d) How many animals were handed to AWOs by the Government each year?
- (e) Over each of the past 3 years, what were the numbers as well as the details of collaboration with AWOs?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been collaborating with animal welfare organisations (AWOs) to enhance animal welfare and promote better animal management. Recognising that most AWOs are non-profit making with limited resources, the Government has since 2011 been providing subvention to these AWOs in supporting their work as long as resources can accommodate. As the subvention has been able to strengthen AWOs' capacity in animal welfare work, after reviewing the needs of AWOs and the resources

implications, we have increased the subvention amount with a view to enhancing our support to AWOs' work. The increased subvention amount will apply to projects approved in 2018-19, with disbursements to be made in 2019-20.

- (b) The eligibility criteria for application for subvention remain unchanged and are set out in **Annex 1**. Only applicants that fulfil the criteria and with applications that are project-based and directly related to the promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management will be considered by AFCD. When vetting applications, AFCD will assess –
 - (i) the objective(s) and expected result(s) of the proposed project;
 - (ii) cost-effectiveness of the project; and
 - (iii) the reasonableness of the proposed expenditure.
- (c) From 2015-16 to 2017-18, a total of 28 applications from 13 AWOs were approved. The details of projects under application as well as the amounts of subvention applied for and given to different AWOs over the past 3 years are in **Annex 2**.
- (d) About 750 animals were handed to AWOs for rehoming each year over the past 3 years.
- (e) Over the past 3 years, AFCD held a total of 25 (8 in 2016, 8 in 2017 and 9 in 2018) events, including adoption days and carnivals jointly with AWOs to promote animal welfare.

- End -

Eligibility criteria for application for subvention

- (1) The organisation must be:
 - (i) a society as defined by section 2(1) of the Societies Ordinance (Cap. 151) and registered under section 5A(1) of that Ordinance;
 - (ii) a company registered under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) (or Cap. 32 as in force at the time of the registration); or
 - (iii) a body of persons, or charity, as defined by section 2(1) of the Registered Trustees Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 306) which has been granted a certificate of incorporation under section 4(1) of that Ordinance.
- (2) The organisation must also be a charitable institution or trust of a public character that is exempt from tax under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) (rehoming partners of AFCD who did not have charitable status when joining the scheme prior to March 2017 are exempted from this requirement).
- (3) The core services and activities of the organisation must be related to promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management and it must be actively engaged in such services/activities over the past 3 years or more (re-homing partners of AFCD are exempted from the 3-year requirement).
- (4) The organisation must be well-managed and properly constituted with good record keeping and accounting systems.
- (5) Organisations charging an adoption or re-homing fee must possess an exemption from holding an animal trader licence under section 5A of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B). For re-homing partners without charitable status, at least one individual acting on behalf of the organisation must possess the individual exemption.

(i) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2015-16 and released in 2016-17)

	AWO	Project under application	Amount sought (\$)	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To conduct adoption promotion programmes, produce educational materials and further improve the Foundation's website	180,000	73,934
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To operate an adult dog rehome scheme	204,000	125,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming animals	1,571,000	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals	To conduct various education programmes	388,155	38,591
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick or injured rabbits	129,000	41,620
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	235,000	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct adoption promotion programmes, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation's website	54,000	16,365
9	Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)	To conduct an Animal Caring Ambassador Programme	200,000	44,854
Total			3,041,155	513,364

(ii) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought (\$)	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	120,000	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide vaccination and food for rehoming animals	218,400	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide preventive medical treatment for rehoming animals	1,962,000	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals	To produce educational materials for promoting animal welfare and responsible pet ownership	53,040	42,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	62,000	45,120
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	320,000	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To promote adoption, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation website	40,500	18,300
Total			6,175,940	494,022

(iii) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought (\$)	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programme	140,000	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	324,000	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance rehoming facilities	1,629,579	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	60,000	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	400,150	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	24,700	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To conduct education and publicity for responsible pet ownership	92,000	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	270,000	45,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	250,000	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	62,390	45,000
Total			3,332,819	570,811

* No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)023

(Question Serial No. 1375)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the expenditure involved? What is the respective expenditure involved in commissioning an independent consultant for monitoring the progress of the programme and assessing its effectiveness?
- (b) The time set for achieving the performance indicators is rather short, which cannot reflect the actual effectiveness of the programme. Would the Government carry out another assessment?
- (c) Has the Government received any proposal from organisations to launch the programme in some districts? If yes, what are the details?
- (d) Has the Government earmarked any resource for carrying out the Trap-Neuter-Return programme again? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (e) Would the Government introduce the programme to the 18 District Councils in order to seek support for carrying out phase 2 of the programme? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

- (a) The 3-year Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) trial programme for stray dogs conducted at the 2 trial sites in Cheung Chau and Yuen Long by 2 animal welfare organisations (AWOs) since early 2015 was completed in January 2018. The total expenditure involved from 2012-13 to 2017-18 was \$7

million. The expenditure for commissioning a consultant by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to conduct a baseline survey on the number of dogs at trial sites, monitor the implementation of the trial programme, and assess its effectiveness in reducing the stray dog population and related nuisance in the trial sites was about \$1.5 million.

- (b) Although the 3-year trial programme has been completed, the 2 concerned AWOs have agreed to continue to monitor the number of dogs recorded for the trial programme, and provide us with the information on changes of the population and the average lifespan of these dogs in the coming years. We would make use of the data provided by the 2 AWOs for further assessment of the effectiveness of the programme.
- (c) to (e) While the trial programme did not achieve the predetermined performance targets, AFCD keeps an open mind towards rendering assistance to AWOs in conducting similar programmes in other specific locations. To this end, AFCD issued letters to AWOs inviting their views on sites that may be suitable for conducting the TNR programme in November 2018. The letter is also available on our thematic website (www.pets.gov.hk). We will consider a range of factors, including population density, community facilities in the vicinity, and traffic condition, in order to determine if a specific location is suitable for conducting such a programme. If a location is found suitable, AFCD will facilitate the liaison between the coordinating AWOs and the District Councils concerned as well as the local stakeholders in order to introduce the programme, with a view to enlisting their support, and seeking approval from the Legislative Council for the relevant legislative exemption.

So far, we have not received any proposal from AWOs, and no resources have been earmarked specifically for this purpose. Subject to the availability of suitable location(s), we will review the resources requirement.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)024

(Question Serial No. 1376)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the issue of the cattle in the New Territories, would the Government inform this Committee of the following information over the past 3 years:

- (a) The work details of the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" programme. What were the numbers of cattle relocated?
- (b) What were the expenditures and manpower earmarked by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for the said work in each year?
- (c) What were the numbers of complaints related to the cattle in the New Territories received in each year?
- (d) What were the numbers of injuries and deaths of cattle in each year?
- (e) Is there any timeframe for the installation of cattle grids? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) adopts a multi-pronged approach for managing stray cattle. One of the key measures is the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" (CSR programme) launched in late 2011, under which AFCD captures, sterilises and relocates stray cattle to remote locations, away from human settlements. AFCD will monitor the health of the feral cattle herds by conducting inspections regularly at locations where the cattle reside.

The number of cattle handled under the CSR programme over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Captured[^] (heads)	Sterilised (heads)	Relocated / Returned[^] (heads)
2016	114	64	69
2017	105	43	72
2018	128	105	80

[^] Figures include repeated capture and relocation/ return of the same cattle.

- (b) The expenditure and manpower involved in conducting the CSR programme over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2016-17	2.4	6
2017-18	2.7	7
2018-19 (revised estimate)	3.7	7

- (c) The number of cattle nuisance complaints received over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of cattle related complaints received
2016	124
2017	63
2018	82

- (d) AFCD does not have information on the number of injured / dead cattle. The number of cases involving injured or sick cattle over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of cases involving injured / sick cattle[#]
2016	118
2017	151
2018	250

[#] A case may involve more than one cattle. The same animal may be involved in more than one case.

- (e) AFCD and the relevant departments have carried out a detailed study on cattle grids, which found that such facilities are generally used on private land in farms in foreign countries to prevent cattle from going outside the farms. Having regard to overseas experience, it is considered that there are potential safety hazards to road users if cattle grids are installed on local public roads.

In the light of the above, and in the absence of viable options to address the safety concerns, the cattle grid proposal will not be pursued further. AFCD will, however,

continue to look into other solutions to reduce the possibility of the cattle returning to the urban area.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)025

(Question Serial No. 1377)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the operation of the 4 animal management centres over the past 3 years, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the numbers of animals caught each year and their respective types;
- (b) the numbers of animals received by each animal management centre each year and their sources;
- (c) the numbers of animals desexed;
- (d) the numbers of animals rehomed;
- (e) the numbers of animals euthanised;
- (f) the manpower and turnover rates;
- (g) the numbers of inspections;
- (h) the numbers of enforcement actions taken;
- (i) the numbers of prosecutions; and
- (j) the operating expenses.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) currently operates 4 Animal Management Centres (AMCs) in the New Territories North (NTN), New Territories

South (NTS), Kowloon (K) and Hong Kong Island (HK) respectively. The requested information is provided below.

(a) Number of stray animals caught over the past 3 years

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			
	Dogs	Cats	Other Animals ¹	Total
2016	1 919	876	1 494	4 289
2017	1 566	674	1 640	3 880
2018	1 235	547	1 369	3 151

¹ Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), cattle, reptiles and poultry/birds, etc.

(b) Number of animals received and kept over the past 3 years

AMC	2016			2017			2018		
	Dogs	Cats	Others ²	Dogs	Cats	Others ²	Dogs	Cats	Other ²
AMC / HK	412	201	109	451	147	26	342	101	11
AMC / K	688	322	85	584	266	72	409	219	44
AMC / NTS	614	187	25	500	131	128	364	111	100
AMC / NTN	1 551	343	1 891	1 391	279	1 552	1 139	258	6 033 ³
Total	3 265	1 053	2 110	2 926	823	1 778	2 254	689	6 188

² Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs and poultry/birds, etc.

³ The increased number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

Most animals received and kept were stray animals caught by AFCD, animals surrendered by owners and seized animals. A separate breakdown of animals received by each AMC by source is not available.

(c) Number of rehomed animals desexed by veterinary clinics engaged by AFCD over the past 3 years

Calendar year	Number of rehomed animals desexed		
	Dogs	Cats	Rabbits
2016	279	39	2
2017	264	21	1
2018 (up to November)	136	23	3

(d) Number of animals rehomed over the past 3 years

Calendar year	Number of animals rehomed		
	Dogs	Cats	Others ⁴
2016	513	136	92
2017	588	67	94

Calendar year	Number of animals rehomed		
	Dogs	Cats	Others ⁴
2018	577	89	87

⁴ Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), cattle, reptiles and birds, etc.

(e) Number of animals euthanised over the past 3 years

Calendar year	Number of animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others ⁵
2016	1 814	449	748
2017	1 478	381	801
2018	1 026	333	5 007 ⁶

⁵ Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle and poultry / birds, etc.

⁶ The increased number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

(f) Staff establishment of AMCs and turnover rate over the past 3 years

Financial year	Total number of posts in the 4 AMCs ⁷		Turnover rate	
	Veterinary Officer	Technical / Frontline staff	Veterinary Officer	Technical / Frontline staff
2016-17	4	183	0%	4.9%
2017-18	4	183	0%	7.7%
2018-19	4	184	0%	9.8%

⁷ The 4 AMCs are overseen by 1 Senior Veterinary Officer.

(g) to (i) Number of inspections conducted (relating to licensed animal trading, dog breeding, boarding, riding and temporary exhibition establishments) and number of successful prosecutions against owners/operators of these premises over the past 3 years

Calendar year	Number of inspections	Number of successful prosecutions	Highest penalty imposed	Lowest penalty imposed
2016	6 203	2	\$500	\$500
2017	5 885	0	N/A	N/A
2018	5 596	0	N/A	N/A

(j) Operational expenditure of the 4 AMCs over the past 3 years

Financial year	Operational expenditure (\$ million)			
	AMC / NTN	AMC / NTS	AMC / K	AMC / HK

2016-17	22.6	16.1	20.1	14.5
2017-18	23.8	16.9	21.2	15.3
2018-19 (revised estimate)	24.8	19.0	22.9	17.1

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)026

(Question Serial No. 1378)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past 3 years, regarding the safety of pet food, would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) What were the numbers of complaints received each year, and what follow-up actions were taken?
- (b) Has the Government investigated into and tested the pet food available in the local market?
- (c) Will the Government consider regulating the pet food in the market? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) received 3, 7 and 5 complaints in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. Upon receipt of a complaint, AFCD will contact the complainant, the manufacturer / importer / distributor of the pet food concerned to gather more information of the case, and may, depending on the nature of the case, advise the complainant on possible follow-up action.
- (b) AFCD commissioned a study in October 2017 to sample and test different pet food products commonly available in the Hong Kong market on whether they contain harmful substances.
- (c) Upon completion of the study in 2020, AFCD will analyse the findings to assess the situation of pet food safety in Hong Kong, with a view to mapping out the way forward.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)027

(Question Serial No. 3208)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the trawl ban and the strengthened regulation of fishing activities in Hong Kong waters, as well as the ongoing implementation of recommendations of the Committee on Sustainable Fisheries, please advise on:

- (a) the numbers of illegal trawling in Hong Kong over the past 3 years;
- (b) the resources and manpower involved in dealing with illegal trawling in Hong Kong this year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

- (a) The number of illegal trawling cases successfully prosecuted in 2016, 2017 and 2018 is 3, 1 and 5 respectively.
- (b) In 2018-19, the expenditure and manpower involved in combating illegal fishing (including trawling) by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department were \$13.0 million (revised estimate) and 18 staff respectively. There is no separate breakdown on work relating to illegal trawling.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)028

(Question Serial No. 2109)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) indicated that the number of stray animals caught in 2018 was 3 151. Please provide the number by type of animals.
- (b) How were the stray animals handled after being caught? Please provide the number by the way of handling.
- (c) Among the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20, the work on “strengthening measures for stray animals management” is included. What are the specific measures?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Stray animals caught will be put in Animal Management Centres (AMCs) for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days, allowing time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary officer as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for adoption by members of the public as far as possible. Only animals that are not suitable for adoption or not adopted at the end of the process will be euthanised.

The number and species of animals handled by AFCD in 2018 are tabulated at the **Annex**.

- (c) In 2019-20, AFCD will take various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals. These include:
- (i) actively promoting the serious responsibility and commitment that go with pet keeping, through public education and publicity programmes to disseminate messages on proper care of animals and responsible pet ownership;
 - (ii) enhancing enforcement against pet owners in contravention of relevant legislation;
 - (iii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to, AWOs in re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
 - (iv) implementing the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant AWOs and local communities.

- End -

Annex

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			Animals given up by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals re-homed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)029

(Question Serial No. 0717)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations on regulating animal trading and dog breeding activities, would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) The number of applications for Animal Trader Licences, Category A and Category B Licences as well as one-off permits received, approved, under processing and rejected by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) respectively since the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations came into effect in March 2017.
- (b) The number of complaints received by AFCD in relation to dogs offered for sale on the internet without a licence or one-off permit, and the number and details of complaints which were substantiated and with relevant persons penalised since the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations came into force in March 2017.
- (c) The number of routine inspections and surprise checks conducted, and the number of cases of non-compliance with licensing requirements and the additional conditions of the licences by animal traders found in the aforementioned inspections and surprise checks as well as the details of the punishments in each of the past 3 years.
- (d) What are the manpower and expenditure involved in the supervision of relevant work by the Department in the forthcoming year?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

- (a) The number of applications for Animal Trader Licences (ATLs), Dog Breeder Licences (DBLs) and one-off permits received, approved, under processing and withdrawn / rejected since the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) came into force on 20 March 2017 and up to end February 2019 is tabulated as follows:

Licence/ Permit	Number of applications			
	Received	Approved	Under processing	Withdrawn / Rejected
ATL	706	632	24	50
DBL (category A)	38	24	4	10
DBL (category B)	59	38	12	9
One-off permit	7	4	0	3

- (b) From 20 March 2017 up to end February 2019, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) received 270 complaints in relation to dogs offered for sale on the internet without a licence or permit. AFCD followed up all these cases and conducted further investigation (including decoy operations) into 67 cases with suspected illegal dog trading activities. Amongst these cases, 45 cases of dog selling without a permit have been successfully prosecuted, 19 cases are still under investigation and warning letters were issued to the persons involved in the remaining 3 cases.
- (c) Information on the number of inspections (including routine ones and surprise checks) conducted on animal trading and dog breeding activities, successful prosecutions initiated against breaches of licensing conditions and trading animals without a valid licence or permit, as well as the relevant penalties is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of routine inspections and surprise checks	Successful prosecutions against breach of licensing conditions		Successful prosecutions against trading animals without a valid licence or permit	
		Number of cases	Range of fine (\$)	Number of cases	Range of fine (\$)
2016	5 265	2	500	3	1,000 to 2,000
2017	4 995	0	N/A	11	400 to 5,000
2018	4 625	0	N/A	34	2,000 to 10,000

- (d) In 2019-20, AFCD will continue to deploy 30 staff to regulate animal trading and dog breeding. A provision of \$17.7 million has been earmarked for this area of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)030

(Question Serial No. 0718)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has commissioned a 2-year study to test 360 samples of pet food sold in the local market. Regarding the safety of pet food products, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The complaint cases related to pet food received by the Government in each of the past 3 years and the details concerned.
- (b) The testing method and types of pet food adopted in the said study, and the progress of the study (including the types, number and pass rate of the samples tested, as well as the details of the samples exceeding the permitted level).
- (c) Whether the effect of the nutrition content of pet food on pets' health will be analysed.
- (d) Whether publicity and education will be strengthened to educate pet owners about the dos and don'ts of feeding their pets, with a view to reducing the chance of feeding pets inappropriate food or too many snacks.

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) received 3, 7 and 5 complaints related to pet food in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. Most of the complaints were related to the quality of pet food and business practices of the sellers.
- (b) AFCD commissioned a study in October 2017 to sample and test pet food products commonly available in the Hong Kong market. A total of 360 samples of different pet food products in different forms, including dry food, wet food and freeze-dried ones, are being collected and tested against certain harmful substances,

micro-organisms, such as Salmonella, aflatoxin and melamine, as well as heavy metals. Up to mid-March 2019, testing of 180 samples, including dry/wet food for dogs and cats, has been completed. So far the results are within the limits permitted by major pet food producing countries / places.

- (c) The scope of the study does not cover the effect of the nutrition content of pet food on pets' health.
- (d) AFCD provides information on the nutritional needs of different types of common pets through its thematic website (www.pets.gov.hk). AFCD has also produced a booklet on proper caring of dogs, which includes advice on dog food and harmful substances. As the nutritional needs of animals vary greatly depending on the species, breeds and life stage, AFCD recommends pet owners consult their veterinary surgeons on the type and amount of food for their pets. AFCD will continue its publicity work on this front.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)031

(Question Serial No. 0723)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It was mentioned in the 2018 Policy Address that “the Government attaches great importance to promoting and safeguarding animal welfare. For amending the legislation related to animal welfare, we are mapping out the major direction and drawing up preliminary proposals for public consultation early next year, which include exploring raising the penalties for acts of cruelty to animals and introducing animal keepers’ responsibility of positive duty of care of animals”. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details of implementing the amendment to the legislation related to animal welfare, including information such as the preliminary direction of the amendment to the legislation, the contents of the amendment, the timeframe for consultation and legislation, etc.?
- (b) What were the numbers of reported cases of suspected animal cruelty received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department over the past 3 years? What were the follow-up actions?
- (c) What were the numbers of successful prosecutions instituted under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance over the past 3 years? What were the minimum and maximum penalties imposed?
- (d) Cases of animal poisoning and torturing animals to death are frequent in recent years. Some consider that it is rare for the persons who torture animals to death to receive severe punishment primarily due to the restrictions of the legislation, making it difficult to adduce evidence in such cases. Taking the case of dog poisoning as an example, even if CCTV footage could prove that the person(s) involved had placed poisoned bait, it was hard to institute prosecution as it was difficult for the Police to prove the offender’s motive. Has the Government addressed the aforesaid issue in a

targeted approach when preparing the amendment of the legislation related to animal welfare?

- (e) Will the Government, making reference to overseas experiences in enacting animal welfare laws, consider introducing dedicated chapters into the laws to protect animals from being poisoned, specify clearly the prohibition of animal poisoning acts (including the prohibition of placing poisoned bait in public places without permission and the requirement of prominent display of notices in private areas or farmland where poisoned bait is placed) and examine proactively the investigations and prosecution procedures targeted at relevant crimes to ensure that the offenders are brought to justice? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

- (a) Having reviewed overseas legislation on animal welfare, and considered views of members of the Legislative Council, animal welfare organisations and other stakeholders, we aim to launch a 3-month public consultation exercise in mid-2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare. Our key proposals will include raising the penalties for acts of cruelty to animals and introducing keepers' responsibility of positive duty of care of animals. Details about the proposals will be available in the document for the consultation. We will draw up legislative proposals after taking into account views gathered in the public consultation.
- (b) and (c) Upon receiving reports of suspected animal cruelty cases, the Police and / or the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will conduct investigations. Prosecution will be instituted if there is sufficient evidence. The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received and details of successful prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) (the Ordinance) initiated by the Police and AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports received	Number of persons convicted	Penalties imposed	
			Fine (\$) #	Range of imprisonment
2016	262	11	5,000	28 days to 6 months
2017	275	24	4,000	7 days to 1 year
2018 (up to September)	368	12	6,000	14 days to 1 year

Only one case in all the 3 calendar years involved a penalty of fine only.

Upon investigation, most of the cases were found to be related to nuisance with no elements of cruelty.

(d) and (e) Poisoning of animals, which causes unnecessary suffering to animals, is regarded as an offence under the Ordinance. The presumption of innocence is the fundamental principle of the common law system and the prosecution has the burden of proof beyond reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty of the offence charged. Over the years, AFCD and the Police have been working closely with animal welfare organisations to combat animal cruelty cases through intelligence gathering and investigation. The Police has set up dedicated investigation teams, comprising police officers with criminal investigation experience and skills in handling other serious crimes, in 22 police districts across the territory since April 2018. To enhance publicity and education, a dedicated team was set up by AFCD in 2011 to disseminate messages of caring for animals and responsible pet ownership, including providing information through its thematic website on the proper caring of their dogs (e.g. including advice on dog food and harmful substances).

In addition, as mentioned above under part (a), we will launch a public consultation exercise on proposals to enhance animal welfare, which include raising the penalties for acts of cruelty to increase the deterrent effect and introducing keepers' responsibility of positive duty of care of animals. We will draw up legislative proposals after taking into account views gathered in the public consultation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)032

(Question Serial No. 0724)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In recent years, the numbers of pet dogs and cats kept by members of the public have been increasing and there is growing concern over animal welfare in the society. Please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The changes in the respective numbers of pet dogs and cats, the change in the number of registered veterinary surgeons, and the change in the ratio of the number of pets to the number of veterinary surgeons over the past 3 years.
- (b) The change in the number of stray animals caught over the past 3 years (please tabulate by dogs and cats).
- (c) The change in the number of pets sent to the Animal Management Centres (AMCs) by pet owners over the past 3 years (please tabulate by dogs and cats).
- (d) The change in the respective numbers of pets euthanised and re-homed over the past 3 years (please tabulate by dogs and cats).

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not keep statistics of population of pet dogs and cats. The consultancy study on the development of the veterinary profession in Hong Kong, commissioned by the Veterinary Surgeons Board in 2016, estimated that about 297 500 dogs and 213 100 cats were kept in Hong Kong between mid-2015 and mid-2016. According to the study, the veterinary surgeon-to-pet ratio was 1:620.

The number of registered veterinary surgeons in Hong Kong over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of registered veterinary surgeons
2016	861
2017	920
2018	988

(b) to (d) The number of dogs and cats handled by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated at the **Annex**.

- End -

Annex

Calendar year	Stray animals caught		Animals given up by owner		Animals received through other channels		Animals reclaimed		Animals re-homed		Animals euthanised	
	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats
2016	1 919	876	1 003	107	343	70	637	400	513	136	1 814	449
2017	1 566	674	1 024	84	336	65	560	269	588	67	1 478	381
2018	1 235	547	715	80	304	62	512	206	577	89	1 026	333

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)033****(Question Serial No. 3077)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please set out the departmental expenditures and the manpower involved in the issue of marine fish culture licences and the numbers of licences renewed over the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1050)Reply:

The requested information is tabulated below.

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)	Number of marine fish culture licences renewed
2014-15	2.0	4	912
2015-16	2.3	4	954
2016-17	2.3	4	909
2017-18	2.3	4	921
2018-19 (revised estimate)	2.6	4	867 (as at end February 2019)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)034****(Question Serial No. 3080)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding "strengthening measures for stray animals management", would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) What are the specific policy initiatives and estimated expenditure?
- (b) What were the numbers of stray animals captured, capturing methods as well as the manpower and expenditures involved over the past 5 years? (Please set out in tabular form as follows.)

Year	Cats	Dogs	Wild pigs
2014	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :
2015	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :
2016	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :
2017	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :
2018	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :	Number : Method : Manpower : Expenditure :

- (c) Through what channels did the animals reach the management centres over the past 5 years? (Please set out in tabular form as follows.)

Year	Under complaint	Abandoned by owners	Captured by the Department	Others
2014				
2015				
2016				
2017				
2018				

- (d) What are the procedures of handling the animals after they have reached the management centres? (Please illustrate by cats, dogs and other animals.)
- (e) What are the criteria and procedures to decide which animals to be euthanised or rehomed? (Please illustrate by cats, dogs and other animals.)
- (f) What are the procedures for owners to reclaim their animals? (Please illustrate by cats, dogs and other animals.)
- (g) What are the procedures for animals to be rehomed to animal welfare organisations? (Please illustrate by cats, dogs and other animals.)

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1054)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) implements various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals. These include:
- (i) actively promoting the serious responsibility and commitment that go with pet keeping, through public education and publicity programmes to disseminate messages on proper care of animals and responsible pet ownership;
 - (ii) enhancing enforcement against pet owners in contravention of relevant legislation;
 - (iii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to, animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
 - (iv) implementing a long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant AWOs and local communities.

The expenditure involved for this area of work in 2018-19 is \$40.5 million.

(b) and (c) In general, upon receipt of complaints or reports from members of the public regarding nuisances caused by stray or wild animals^{Note}, staff of the Animal Management Centres (AMCs) or the Wetland and Fauna Conservation Division of AFCD will conduct follow-up inspections respectively and arrange catching operations as necessary. The methods employed to catch stray or wild animals mainly depend on the types of animals involved and the circumstances surrounding the catching operations. In most cases, catching poles, snares or cages that are specially designed are used for catching dogs while cages are used for catching cats. Cage traps, tranquiliser dart gun or nets would be used for capturing wild pigs.

The number of wild pigs caught by AFCD over the past 5 years is 12, 28, 59, 106 and 197 in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. The number of stray animals (including dogs, cats and other animals) caught by AFCD and animals received over the past 5 years is tabulated at the **Annex**. AFCD does not have the statistics on the number of stray animals caught in response to complaints received.

Note: The management of wild animals falls under the policy purview of the Environment Bureau.

The expenditure on catching stray animals and dealing with wild pig issues over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Catching stray animals (\$ million)	Dealing with wild pig issues (\$ million)
2014-15	28.9	1.5
2015-16	29.0	1.8
2016-17	28.5	2.4
2017-18	28.7	6.8
2018-19 (revised estimate)	32.1	10.3

(d) and (e) Stray animals caught (including dogs, cats or other animals) will be put in AMCs for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days, to allow time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary officer as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, AFCD will arrange their transfer to AWOs for adoption by members of the public as far as possible.

On the other hand, some animals received by AMCs may not be suitable for rehoming due to various reasons, including the risk of carrying zoonotic diseases, health or temperamental reasons. Even for healthy animals, keeping in captivity without rehoming for prolonged period is not in their best interest

from the perspective of animal welfare. As such, euthanasia remains a necessary measure for managing stray animals. A number of international animal organisations, including the World Organisation for Animal Health, agree that in situations where the number of stray dogs caught remain high or the dogs are not fit for adoption despite the deployment of various stray dog management measures, euthanasia would be an appropriate and humane solution. Many overseas countries, such as the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, Japan and Singapore, all adopt euthanasia in handling stray animals.

Nevertheless, AFCD will continue to strengthen its efforts on management of stray animals, such as the promotion of responsible pet ownership and animals rehoming as well as taking enforcement action against abandonment of animals by irresponsible owners, with a view to reducing the number of stray animals that need to be euthanised.

- (f) Owners or keepers of animals (including dogs, cats and other animals), or persons authorised by them, must come to AMCs in person to reclaim the animals. The owners' identity will be verified before the animals could be reclaimed. Dogs reclaimed by owners must be microchipped and vaccinated against rabies before release. Microchipping for cats and other animals are not required.
- (g) Rehoming partners of AFCD will be informed when there are animals (including dogs, cats and other animals) which have been assessed to be suitable for rehoming by AFCD. They will then visit AMCs to further assess the animals in question as necessary. If the animals are considered suitable for rehoming, they will make a request to AFCD and collect the animals.

- End -

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			Animals given up by owners			Animals received through other channels		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2014	3 676	1 836	1 374	1 464	132	28	809	78	656
2015	2 412	1 359	1 418	1 284	129	109	378	73	3 590
2016	1 919	876	1 494	1 003	107	56	343	70	674
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904 [#]

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

[#] The increased number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)035****(Question Serial No. 3088)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

There will be a net increase in 11 posts and expenditure of \$23.2 million for the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for filling the vacancies created in 2018-19 and promoting animal welfare in 2019-20. In this regard, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Please tabulate the details of the 11 new posts, including the posts, the scopes of duties and all responsibilities, as well as the annual salary expenses.
- (b) What is the existing establishment of the Inspection and Quarantine Branch under AFCD? Please tabulate all the posts, the scopes of duties and all responsibilities, as well as the annual salary expenses.

Veterinary Officer Grade

Post	Scope of duty	Responsibility	Annual salary expense
E.g. Senior Veterinary Officer			

Animal Health Division

Post	Scope of duty	Responsibility	Annual salary expense

Animal Management (Development) Division

Post	Scope of duty	Responsibility	Annual salary expense

Animal Management (Operations) Division

Post	Scope of duty	Responsibility	Annual salary expense

Veterinary Laboratory Division

Post	Scope of duty	Responsibility	Annual salary expense

- (c) Please provide the respective organisation charts showing the existing establishment of the Inspection and Quarantine Branch and its establishment after its manpower has been increased.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1062)

Reply:

- (a) Information regarding the net increase of 11 posts in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department under Programme 3 (Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services) in 2019-20 is tabulated below.

Area of Work	Rank	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To handle claims in relation to marine works	Fisheries Supervisor II	2*	0.5
To handle animal poisoning and cruelty cases	Veterinary Officer Field Officer I	1 1	1.6
To strengthen administrative support for the Veterinary Surgeons Board	Executive Officer I Executive Officer II	2 1	2.0
To strengthen manpower support for the Supplies Section	Supplies Supervisor II Supplies Assistant Supplies Attendant	1 1 1	0.7
To enhance promotion of animal welfare	Field Officer II Field Assistant	1 1	0.5
To provide support for Personnel Section	Executive Officer I	-1**	-0.7
Total		11	4.6

* These two posts are created under Programme 3 for extending the two time-limited posts for the same area of work lapsing in 2019-20 which were created under Programme 1.

** This time-limited post is offset by the creation of the same post for the same area of work under Programme 1 in 2019-20. The creation under Programme 1 is not reflected above.

- (b) Details of the posts under the 8 divisions in the Inspection and Quarantine Branch and related information required are tabulated below.

Animal Health Division

Area of Work	Rank	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To monitor and control livestock diseases and develop antimicrobial resistance surveillance programme on food animals	Senior Veterinary Officer	1	18.9
	Veterinary Officer	4	
	Senior Field Officer	3	
	Field Officer I	10	
	Field Officer II	16	
	Field Assistant	1	
	Artisan	1	
	Workman I	1	
Workman II	1		
Total		38	18.9

Animal Management (Development) Division

Area of Work	Ranks	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To promote animal welfare and review relevant procedures and legislation	Senior Veterinary Officer	1	10.1
	Veterinary Officer	1	
	Senior Field Officer	3	
	Field Officer I	4	
	Field Officer II	10	
	Field Assistant	1	
Total		20	10.1

Animal Management (Operations) Division

Area of Work	Ranks	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
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Area of Work	Ranks	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To control stray animals and issue dog licences	Senior Veterinary Officer	1	59.7
	Veterinary Officer	5	
	Senior Field Officer	6	
	Senior Field Assistant	4	
	Field Officer I	11	
	Field Officer II	45	
	Field Assistant	37	
	Assistant Clerical Officer	1	
	Clerical Assistant	1	
	Artisan	10	
	Motor Driver	20	
	Workman I	63	
Total		204	59.7

Veterinary Laboratory Division

Area of Work	Ranks	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To conduct diagnostic and surveillance testing for animals	Senior Veterinary Officer	1	26.8
	Veterinary Officer	5	
	Veterinary Technologist	5	
	Veterinary Laboratory Technician I	13	
	Veterinary Laboratory Technician II	25	
	Laboratory Assistant	7	
	Field Assistant	1	
	Workman I	1	
Total		58	26.8

Equine Disease Division

Area of Work	Ranks	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To conduct laboratory testing for equine diseases	Senior Veterinary Officer	1	3.7
	Veterinary Technologist	3	
Total		4	3.7

Technical Services Division

Area of Work	Ranks	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To review animal policy and veterinary legislation	Senior Veterinary Officer	1	7.1
	Veterinary Officer	1	
	Senior Executive Officer	2	
	Executive Officer II	1	
	Field Officer I	2	
	Assistant Clerical Officer	2	
	Clerical Assistant	1	
Total		10	7.1

Import and Export Division

Area of Work	Ranks	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To enforce regulations and policies in import and export of live animals and animal products	Senior Veterinary Officer	1	43.5
	Veterinary Officer	2	
	Senior Field Officer	3	
	Field Officer I	34	
	Field Officer II	47	
	Assistant Clerical Officer	1	
	Clerical Assistant	1	
	Field Assistant	12	
	Artisan	2	
	Workman I	6	
Total		109	43.5

Plant and Pesticides Regulatory Division

Area of Work	Ranks	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To impose control on plants and pesticides	Senior Agricultural Officer	1	24.9
	Agricultural Officer	5	
	Senior Field Officer	6	
	Field Officer I	13	
	Field Officer II	23	
	Field Assistant	1	
	Assistant Clerical Officer	4	
	Clerical Assistant	1	
Total		54	24.9

Apart from the 7 Senior Veterinary Officers and 18 Veterinary Officers working under the 8 divisions as mentioned above, there is also a Principal Veterinary Officer (PVO) in the Inspection and Quarantine Branch who is responsible for supervising the work of 5 of the divisions. The provision for salaries for the PVO post in 2019-20 is \$1.8 million.

- (c) The organisation charts showing the existing establishment and the establishment in 2019-20 of the Inspection and Quarantine Branch are at **Annex I** and **Annex II** respectively.

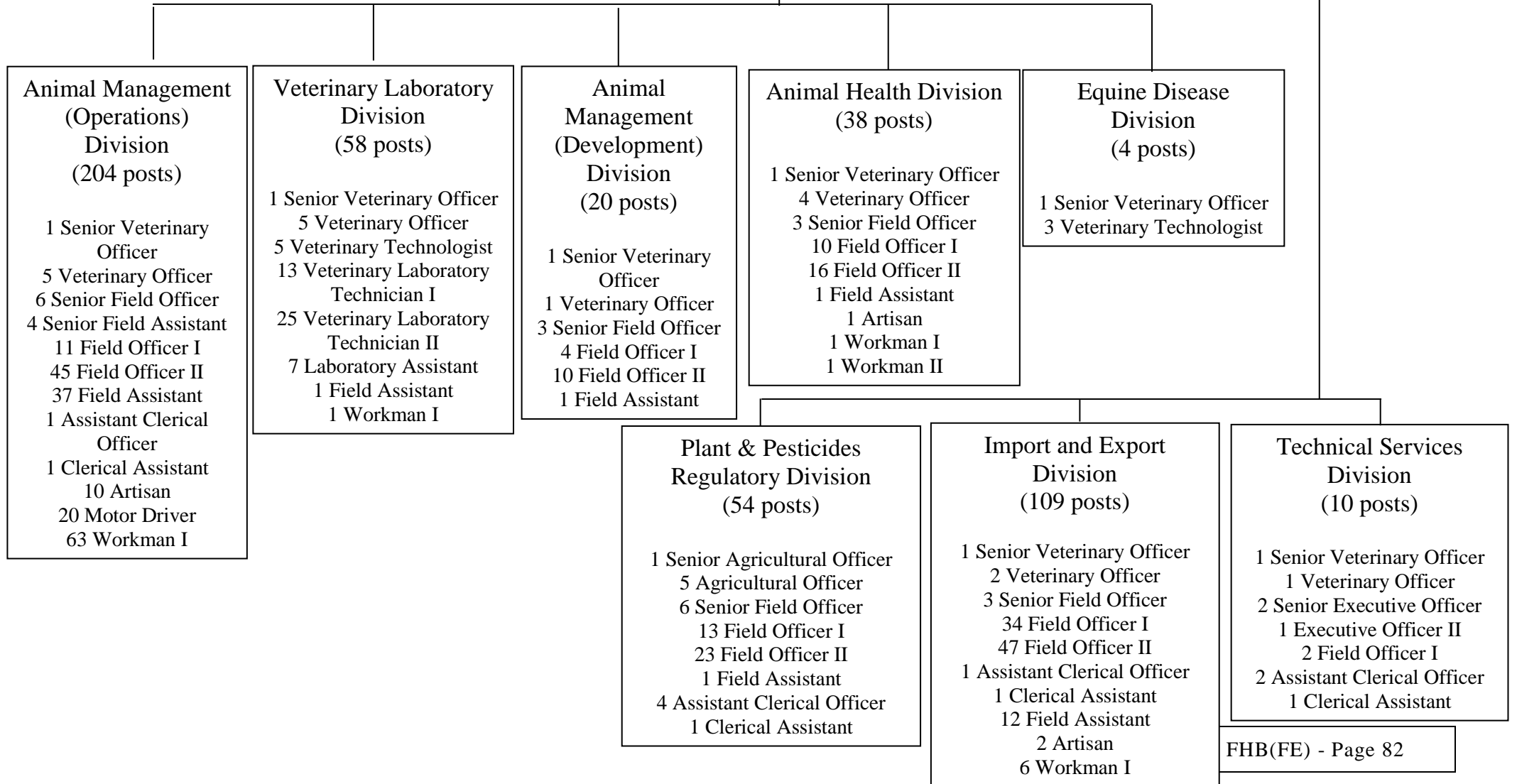
- End -

Existing Organisation Chart of the Inspection and Quarantine Branch

Assistant Director (Inspection and Quarantine)

Personal Secretary to Assistant Director

Principal Veterinary Officer

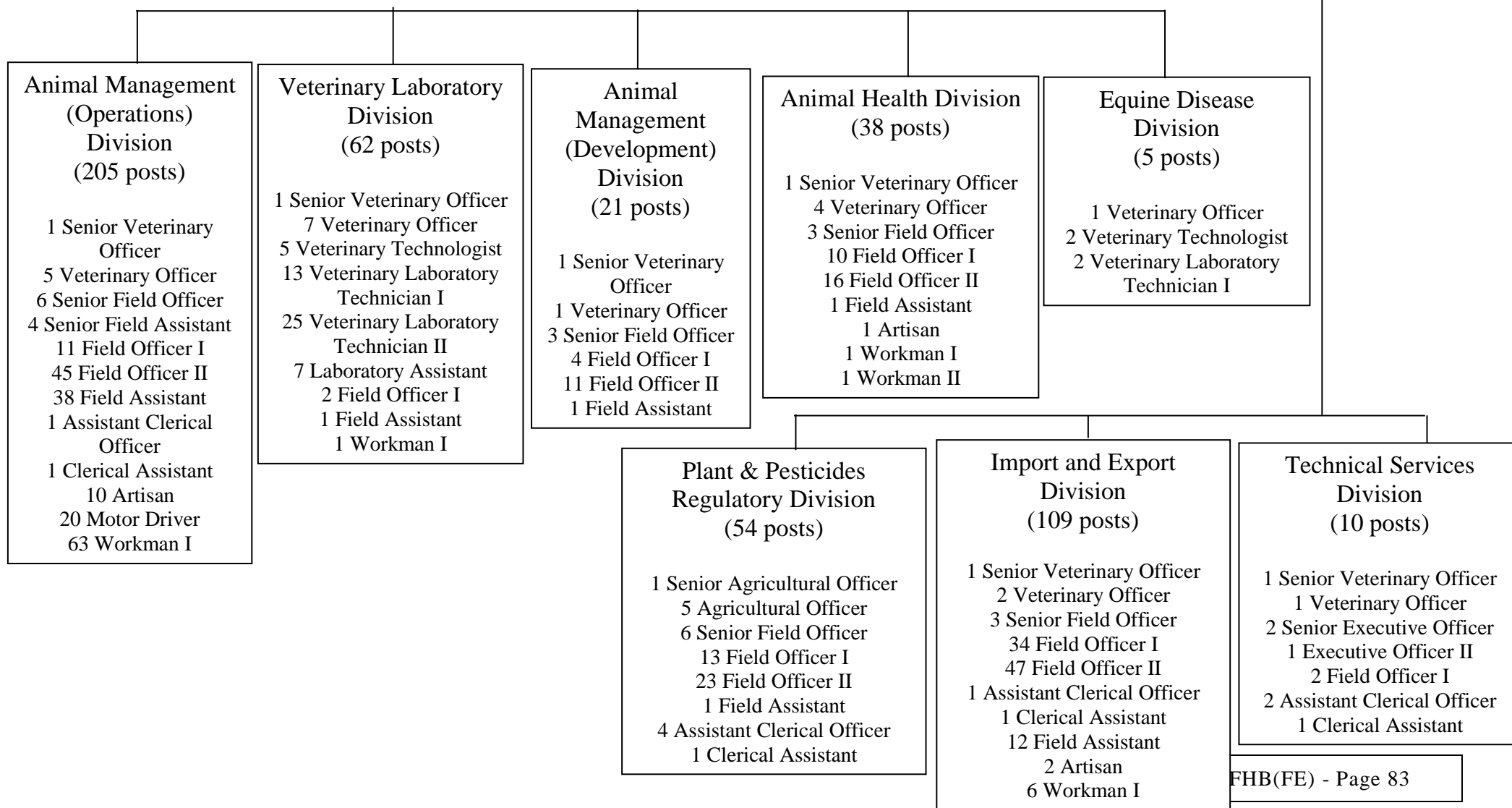


Organisation Chart of the Inspection and Quarantine Branch in 2019-20

Assistant Director (Inspection and Quarantine)

Personal Secretary to Assistant Director

Principal Veterinary Officer



CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)036****(Question Serial No. 3102)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding animal management, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The number of animal health certificates issued over the past 5 years. (Please set out by types in the table, cats/dogs/other animals.)

Calendar year	Cats	Dogs	Other animals
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			

- (b) The number of licences/permits issued over the past 5 years. (Please set out by types in the table, cats/dogs/other animals.)

Calendar year	Cats	Dogs	Other animals
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			

- (c) The number of microchips registered for cats in Hong Kong and the contents therein.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1091)

Reply:

- (a) The number of health certificates for exporting animals issued by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of animal health certificates issued
2014	4 229
2015	4 454
2016	4 555
2017	4 543
2018	5 394

Since an animal health certificate may cover one or multiple animals of different species, a separate breakdown on the number of such certificates issued by species is not available.

- (b) The import of live animals and birds is regulated under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance (Cap. 139) and the Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421). The importers must obtain permits from AFCD prior to importation. The number of permits issued over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of permits issued
2014	6 697
2015	7 734
2016	8 191
2017	7 796
2018	7 896

Since one permit may cover one or multiple animals of different species, a breakdown on the number of permits by species is not available.

Under the Rabies Regulation (Cap. 421A), a dog aged over 5 months is required to be licensed and vaccinated against this disease every 3 years. The number of dog licences issued over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of dog licences issued
2014	62 195
2015	65 537
2016	61 418
2017	61 368
2018	59 034

- (c) Cat owners are not legally required to have their cats licensed, vaccinated against rabies and microchipped. This notwithstanding, they may take their cats to veterinary clinics for vaccination against rabies and microchipping for identification purpose. As such, AFCD does not have information on the number of cats microchipped in Hong Kong.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)037

(Question Serial No. 3103)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department is responsible for safeguarding animal welfare. The Government have proposed to abolish the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance and enact the Animal Welfare Ordinance. Please advise on the consultation schedule, manpower and estimated expenditures involved.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1092)

Reply:

Having reviewed overseas legislation on animal welfare, and considered views of members of the Legislative Council, animal welfare organisations and other stakeholders, we aim to launch a 3-month public consultation exercise in mid 2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare. As the above work forms part of the on-going work of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in strengthening promotion of animal welfare, there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure and manpower involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)038

(Question Serial No. 3104)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The subventions for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPAC) and animal welfare organisations (AWOs) have an increase of \$500 000 and \$1 million respectively this year. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the reasons for the increased estimate to SPCA? What are the details of the projects with the increased estimate?
- (b) What are the reasons for the increased estimate to AWOs? What are the details of the projects with the increased estimate?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1093)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been collaborating with animal welfare organisations (AWOs) to enhance animal welfare and promote better animal management. Recognising that most AWOs are non-profit making with limited resources, the Government has been providing subventions to these AWOs in supporting their work as long as resources permit. As the number of applications for subvention and the total amount applied continue to increase, and the subvention has been able to strengthen AWOs' capacity in animal welfare work, after reviewing the needs of AWOs and the resources implications, we have increased the subvention with effect from 2019-20 with a view to enhancing our support to AWOs. The increased subvention amount will apply to projects approved in 2018-19, with disbursements to be made in 2019-20. The list of projects under application as well as the amount of subvention approved for release to AWOs in the coming year are tabulated in the **Annex**.

Apart from the subvention to various AWOs mentioned above, AFCD has also been providing subvention to the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) (SPCA). The annual provision for the subvention to SPCA has been set at \$1 million for the past few years. The subvention granted to SPCA is to support programmes related to stray animal management, combat animal cruelty, organise public education on animal welfare as well as relevant training and seminars for public officers and interested groups. As the scope and the costs of the various subvented programmes and activities have increased over the past years, we have also increased the subvention with effect from 2019-20 with a view to enhancing our support to SPCA for carrying out programmes and activities that are conducive to enhancing animal welfare and promoting better animal management.

- End -

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for and approved in 2018-19)*

	AWO	Projects under application	Amount approved (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	120,000
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection	To run a “Buddy Programme” to educate children on responsible pet ownership and adoption	120,000
4	SAA	To renovate the animal centre	120,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	120,000
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	150,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	53,500
8	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	10,000
9	Kirsten’s Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	120,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	50,000
Total			1,263,500

*The amount of subvention will be released in 2019-20.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)039

(Question Serial No. 1145)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the development of organic farming, please provide the following information:

- (a) What is the Government's plan in terms of technical support, standard certification and sales promotion for organic farming in 2019-20? What are the manpower and estimated expenditure involved?
- (b) The Department did provide technical advice on organic cultivation to farmers to assist them in capturing high-value market niches in the past. What were the relevant measures and their effectiveness?
- (c) Since the introduction of the Organic Farming Conversion Scheme in late 2000 up to now, what are the numbers, distribution, farming areas, production quantities and value of local organic farms? What is the percentage in the total number of farms?
- (d) In view of the great variety of organic food labels found in the market, consumers can hardly verify the authenticity of food products claimed to be organic. Has the Government examined the introduction of specific legislation to regulate the production, certification and labelling of organic food so as to safeguard the interest of consumers?
- (e) Given the large quantity of products claimed to be organic in the market in recent years, consumers can hardly distinguish between organic and non-organic products. What are the details of inspections conducted by the Government on organic products?
- (f) Currently, organic farmers are facing inadequate marketing channels or high cost of sales, how would the Government provide assistance to them?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

- (a) In 2019-20, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will continue to promote organic farming and the marketing of local organic produce through technical assistance to local farmers under the Organic Farming Support Service (OFSS) Scheme, joint efforts with the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) and the Federation of Vegetable Marketing Cooperative Societies in promoting the production and marketing of local organic produce, as well as giving support to the Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre (HKORC) for the promotion of organic education and certification. The manpower and estimated expenditure for this area of work in 2019-20 are 22 staff and \$9.1 million respectively.

Furthermore, there are 3 approved projects under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund with a total funding commitment of \$44 million which aim to enhance the technical support and certification of local organic farms and promotion of their produce. These projects will start in April 2019 and will last for 36 to 48 months.

- (b) and (f) Local organic vegetables are generally sold at premium prices. In addition to the aforesaid efforts, AFCD provides support services to assist local farmers in capturing high-value market niches, developing new farming techniques to raise productivity, introducing new and improved crop varieties for local cultivation, and setting up farmers' markets to reach out to customers. AFCD cooperates with VMO, the local organic farming sector and other voluntary organisations to organise the annual event Farmfest to promote local organic produce to the general public. AFCD has jointly developed with VMO a mobile application "Local Fresh" to facilitate consumers to purchase local organic produce more conveniently through mobile platforms. .
- (c) As at February 2019, 308 farms in Hong Kong had joined the OFSS Scheme, accounting for about 16% of all local vegetable farms. Occupying a total land area of 106 hectares, these organic farms produce on average about 6 tonnes of organic vegetables per day, accounting for about 0.3% of the total fresh vegetables supply in Hong Kong. AFCD does not have statistics on the value of the local organic production. Local organic farms are mostly found in the following 7 major areas in the New Territories: Ng Ka Tsuen, Tai Kong Po, Ping Che, Fanling, Pat Heung, Sheung Shui and Tai Po.
- (d) and (e) The Government commissioned a consultancy study in 2011 to assess the need for regulating the production and sale of organic food (including organic agricultural products) in Hong Kong. In view of the small scale of the local organic food sector and the primary focus of the Government on safeguarding food safety and supply stability, the consultancy report concluded that there was no pressing need to introduce legislation to specifically regulate organic food products in Hong Kong.

The consultant recommended the Government enhance consumer education and promote certification of organic food products by administrative measures to

enrich consumers' knowledge of organic food. AFCD has been implementing the recommendations with the support of HKORC which, apart from providing organic certification service, also enhances public awareness about organic food and organic certification labels through various channels and activities.

Moreover, HKORC conducts regular and surprise inspections of all the certified operations. It also carries out regular surveys and inspections of retail outlets and wet markets, and refers suspected cases of sale of produce falsely described as organic produce to the Customs and Excise Department for enforcement actions under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362).

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)040****(Question Serial No. 1154)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding fishing vessels and industry-related vessels, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the respective numbers of pair trawlers, stern trawlers, shrimp trawlers, hang trawlers, purse seiners with light, purse seiners, liners and gillnetters, fish carriers, other fishing vessels and industry-related vessels over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What were the numbers of fishing vessels registered in Hong Kong over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (c) Among the registered fishing vessels mentioned in part (b), what are the respective numbers of vessels conducting fishing activities with the methods mentioned in part (a)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)Reply:

- (a) The requested information is tabulated as follows:

Type of vessel	Number of local fishing vessels* / Calendar year		
	2016	2017	2018
Fish carrier	31	30	26
Fishing sampan "C7"	1 982	1 942	1 961
Fishing vessel	1 997	1 949	1 899
Outboard open sampan "P4"	2 621	2 581	2 619
Total	6 631	6 502	6 505

* Based on the Marine Department's (MD) information on the number of fishing vessels (Class III vessel) licensed under the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Certification and Licensing) Regulation (Cap. 548D)

No further breakdown on the number of fishing vessels is available.

- (b) Vessels navigating in Hong Kong are required to possess a valid operating licence issued by MD which certifies the safety and seaworthiness of the vessel concerned. Vessels engaging in fishing operations in Hong Kong waters are required to further register with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) (the Ordinance). The number of fishing vessels registered under the Ordinance in 2016, 2017 and 2018 is 4 121, 4 120 and 4 145 respectively.
- (c) The requested information is tabulated below.

Fishing method	Number of local fishing vessels / Calendar year		
	2016	2017	2018
Purse seining / purse seining with light	30	27	32
Long lining / hand lining	38	37	35
Gill netting	530	520	514
Cage trapping	41	39	46
Mixed fishing methods	3 482	3 497	3 518
Total	4 121	4 120	4 145

Since trawling is prohibited in Hong Kong waters, no trawler could be registered under the Ordinance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)041****(Question Serial No. 1157)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding illegal fishing activities, please advise on the following:

- (a) the numbers of (i) patrols and (ii) joint operations conducted in the marine parks/marine reserve set out below each year over 2016-17 to 2018-19

Year		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
Yan Chau Tong Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
Tung Ping Chau Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
Cape D'Aguilar Marine Reserve	Patrol			
	Joint operation			
The Brothers Marine Park	Patrol			
	Joint operation			

- (b) the numbers of cases relating to illegal fishing activities in the marine parks/marine reserve mentioned in item (a) respectively each year over 2016-17 to 2018-19 regarding: (i) the number of complaint cases received; (ii) the number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations but could not successfully make arrests; (iii) the number of persons arrested and cases; (iv) the number of persons convicted and cases; (v) the maximum and minimum penalties imposed on the persons convicted; and (vi) the number of repeated offenders arrested and cases (please set them out in the table below)

	Year		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of complaint cases received			
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (cases which could not successfully make arrests)			
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)			
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)			
Maximum and minimum penalties			
Number of repeated offences (number of repeated offenders)			

- (c) the numbers of (i) patrols and (ii) joint operations conducted in the Hong Kong waters (except in various marine parks/marine reserve) set out below each year over 2016-17 to 2018-19

		Year		
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Waters over the Hong Kong territory	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters around Cheung Chau	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters around Shek Kwu Chau	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters around Soko Islands	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters off the Brothers	(i)			
	(ii)			
Waters off Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau	(i)			
	(ii)			

- (d) the numbers of cases relating to illegal fishing activities in the waters mentioned in item (c) respectively each year over 2016-17 to 2018-19 regarding: (i) the number of complaint cases received; (ii) the number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations but could not successfully make arrests; (iii) the number of persons arrested and cases; (iv) the number of persons convicted and cases; (v) the maximum and minimum penalties imposed on the persons convicted; and (vi) the number of repeated offenders arrested and cases (please set them out in the table below)

	Year		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of complaint cases received			
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (cases which could not successfully make arrests)			
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)			
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)			
Maximum and minimum penalties			
Number of repeated offences (number of repeated offenders)			

- (e) Would the Government consider strengthening the measures in combating illegal fishing activities, including: (i) purchasing additional patrol launches; (ii) increasing the number of patrols; (iii) increasing the number of joint operations; (iv) purchasing additional equipment; (v) imposing heavier penalty and (vi) other measures. If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (f) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in enforcement operations against illegal fishing activities over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (g) What were the numbers of patrol launches, patrol areas and numbers of patrols conducted against illegal fishing activities over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (h) Regarding illegal fishing activities, what fishing practices were detected during patrols or joint operations over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19), their numbers and percentages involved?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

- (a) The numbers of (i) patrols conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD); and (ii) its joint operations[^] mounted with the Marine Police and the Marine Department at marine parks and marine reserve over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Financial year / Location		2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-19 (as at end February 2019)
Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park	(i)	788	830	770
	(ii)	14	12	9
Yan Chau Tong Marine Park	(i)	394	599	487
	(ii)	13	12	10

Financial year / Location		2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-19 (as at end February 2019)
Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park	(i)	398	378	371
	(ii)	1	0	0
Tung Ping Chau Marine Park	(i)	788	556	465
	(ii)	11	12	8
Cape D'Aguiar Marine Reserve	(i)	343	388	443
	(ii)	1	0	0
The Brothers Marine Park	(i)	114	426	404
	(ii)	0	0	0

[^] Concurrently with operations of relevant Mainland authorities in nearby Mainland waters in some cases.

- (b) Statistics on illegal fishing activities at marine parks and marine reserve over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Item	Financial year		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at end February 2019)
Number of complaints received	1	3	3
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (cases which could not successfully make arrests)	8 (0)	14 (2)	12 (1)
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)	8 (8)	12 (12)	11* (11)
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)	5 (5)	6 (6)	3 (3)
Maximum and minimum penalties imposed	A fine of \$1,500 to \$2,000	A fine of \$800 to \$1,500	A fine of \$800 to \$1,500
Number of repeated offences (number of repeated offenders)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

* 5 prosecution cases are still in progress.

- (c) The numbers of (i) patrols conducted by AFCD; and (ii) its joint operations[^] mounted with the Marine Police and the Marine Department in the waters outside marine parks and marine reserve over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Financial year / Waters		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at end January 2019)
Waters over the Hong Kong territory	(i)	1 562	1 592	1 388
	(ii)	63	65	66
Waters around Cheung Chau, Shek Kwu Chau and Soko Islands	(i)	520	533	420
	(ii)	63	47	36
Waters off the Brothers	(i)	72	62	47
	(ii)	0	0	0
Waters off Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau	(i)	77	67	57
	(ii)	0	0	0

[^] Concurrently with operations of relevant Mainland authorities in nearby Mainland waters in some cases

- (d) Statistics on illegal fishing activities in the waters mentioned in part (c) over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Item	Financial year		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at end January 2019)
Number of complaints received	115	129	88
Number of cases relating to illegal fishing activities detected during patrols or joint operations (number of cases which could not successfully make arrests)	75 (53)	30 (18)	31 (24)
Number of successful arrests (number of persons arrested)	22 (35)	12 (30)	7 (16)
Number of successful prosecutions (number of persons successfully prosecuted)	14 (25)	8 (26)	5 (13)
Maximum and minimum penalties imposed	A fine of \$700 to \$100,000; imprisonment for 2 weeks to 2 months	A fine of \$1,200 to \$5,000; imprisonment for 2 months	A fine of \$2,000; imprisonment for 2 weeks to 1 month
Number of repeated offences (number of repeated offenders)	1 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)

- (e) AFCD enforces the relevant legislation through a risk-based approach, deploying resources flexibly to conduct random and targeted patrols in local waters (including marine parks and marine reserve) having regard to the circumstances to combat illegal fishing activities. AFCD also maintains close liaison with the Marine Police with a

view to mounting joint operations (including using the “vessel arrest system” to intercept trawlers who refuse to stop for inspection) as and when appropriate.

Under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) (the Ordinance), any person who conducts illegal fishing activities is liable to a maximum fine of \$200,000 and an imprisonment for 6 months upon conviction. In addition, under the Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476), any person who carries out illegal fishing activities in marine parks and marine reserve is liable to a maximum fine of \$25,000 and an imprisonment for one year upon conviction. We consider that the existing statutory provisions are already effective in combating the illegal fishing activities, and that the penalties imposed by the court, including fines and imprisonment, have deterrent effect. AFCD will continue to enhance enforcement, exchange information and intelligence with the relevant government departments and Mainland authorities, adjust its enforcement strategy from time to time in the light of circumstances and intelligence gathered, and collaborate with the relevant parties to combat illegal fishing activities. To enhance the effectiveness of the enforcement action, AFCD will explore the application of technology in its enforcement work, such as using real time satellite information to help identify fishing vessels.

- (f) The expenditure and manpower involved in combating illegal fishing by AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2016-17	13.2	18
2017-18	13.3	18
2018-19 (revised estimate)	13.0	18

- (g) From 2016 to 2018, AFCD deployed 3 vessels for regular and targeted patrols against illegal fishing activities at random hours (including at nights and early mornings) under the Ordinance. AFCD’s staff, when discharging duties on other vessels, will also stay vigilant to any illegal fishing activities, and inform AFCD’s enforcement unit and Marine Police for follow up.

The patrols focused on blackspots of illegal fishing activities such as Soko Islands and waters south of Cheung Chau. The number of patrols conducted by AFCD in 2016, 2017 and 2018 are about 1 540, 1 630 and 1 610 respectively.

- (h) Information on illegal fishing practices detected during patrols over the past 3 years is tabulated below.

Illegal fishing practices	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19 (as at January 2019)	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Shrimp trawling	13	17.3	17	56.7	8	25.8
Hang trawling	5	6.7	0	0	0	0
Stern trawling	0	0	1	3.3	1	3.2

Illegal fishing practices	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19 (as at January 2019)	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Pair trawling	0	0	0	0	2	6.5
Purse seining	0	0	1	3.3	0	0
Gill netting	43	57.4	8	26.7	14	45.2
Cage trapping	9	12.0	3	10.0	6	19.3
Long lining	1	1.3	0	0	0	0
Hookah fishing	4	5.3	0	0	0	0
Total	75	100.0	30	100.0	31	100.0

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)042

(Question Serial No. 1160)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme and the Special Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme of the Vegetable Marketing Organization, please provide the following information over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19):

- (a) What was the administrative and technical support provided for the schemes?
- (b) What were the details of the expenditures and manpower involved?
- (c) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in handling applications for the schemes?
- (d) What were the respective numbers of applications and the area of land involved (hectare)?
- (e) What were the respective numbers of successful and unsuccessful cases? What was the area of farmland (hectare) successfully rented?
- (f) How long did the processing of an application take on average (from receipt of an application to notification of the result)?
- (g) What were the numbers of landowners participating in the said schemes?
- (h) How much was the annual rental for the successful cases?
- (i) What were the accumulative numbers of applicants and the area of land involved (hectare) on the waiting list?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

- (a) to (i) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) operates the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (ALRS) through bringing owners of farmland and interested farmers together to work out leasing agreements for the farmland. The manpower and expenditure involved in operating ALRS and the relevant statistics on the cases handled over the past 3 calendar years are tabulated below.

Calendar year	2016	2017	2018
Number of staff	1	1	1
Expenditure (\$ million)	0.9	0.9	0.9
Number of landowners participating in ALRS	28	41	24
Number of new applications / land area involved (hectare)	65 / 8.3	58 / 8.7	77 / 8.1
Number of successful cases	29	9	10
- Total land area involved (hectare)	4.0	2.1	1.4
- Range of annual rental (per dau chung[^])	\$1,400 to \$32,100	\$160 to \$12,000	\$25 to \$60,000
- Average waiting time (year)	4	5.5	3.2
Number of applications on the waiting list as at year-end / land area involved (hectare)	300 / 67.6	347 / 74.7	413 / 81.0

[^]1 dau chung is equivalent to 7 260 square feet.

The Special Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (SALRS) is a separate scheme proposed by the Government in relation to New Development Area projects. Under SALRS, the Government proactively identifies suitable government land and private land the owners of which are willing to lease or sell their land suitable for agricultural re-site / rehabilitation. AFCD will then carry out matching. Some government land in the North District has already been identified for application by farmers affected by the Kwu Tung North and Fanling North New Development Area project. The Government is now engaging the farmers concerned on the details of SALRS.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)043

(Question Serial No. 1163)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding aquaculture incidents, please advise on the following:

- (a) The expenditures and manpower of the Government for monitoring water quality and red tides respectively over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (b) Please set out in tabular form the numbers of red tides occurred in Hong Kong and the species of phytoplankton that caused red tides respectively over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19), with a breakdown by district.
- (c) Did the Government have any statistics on the cases relating to massive fish deaths due to water quality or pollution incidents over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)? Please set out by district.
- (d) Did the Government have any statistics on the cases relating to massive fish deaths due to inclement weather (including typhoons, cold snaps) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)? Please set out by district.
- (e) Please set out the respective numbers of applications for the Emergency Relief Fund due to items (b), (c) and (d), cases approved and the amount involved.
- (f) Currently, what assistance would the Government provide to mariculturists after red tides?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure and manpower involved in monitoring water quality and red tides are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2016-17	9.5	10
2017-18	12.0	12
2018-19 (revised estimate)	11.8	11

(b) The requested information is tabulated as follows:

District / Financial year	Number of red tides observed and the causative species involved		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
North	4 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>	1 <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i>	Nil
Tai Po	4 <i>Gonyaulax verior</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i>	5 <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i> , <i>Chaetoceros salsugineum</i>	7 <i>Takayama tuberculata</i> , <i>Scrippsiella trochoidea</i> , <i>Prorocentrum balticum</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i>
Sha Tin	Nil	1 <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i>	1 <i>Cyclotella choctawhatcheeana</i>
Sai Kung	6 <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Tripos furca</i> , <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i>	5 <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i> , <i>Cochlodinium convolutum</i> , <i>Pseudo-nitzschia pungens</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>	4 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i>
Southern	4 <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i> , <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>	5 <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i> , <i>Cerataulina pelagica</i> , <i>Thalassiosira pseudonana</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>	2 <i>Mesodinium rubrum</i> , <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i>

District / Financial year	Number of red tides observed and the causative species involved		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Islands	2 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i>	2 <i>Cerataulina pelagica</i> , <i>Thalassiosira pseudonana</i>	4 <i>Takayama tuberculata</i> , <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i> , <i>Akashiwo sanguinea</i>
Tuen Mun	1 <i>Phaeocystis globosa</i>	2 <i>Thalassiosira tealata</i>	1 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>
Kwun Tong	1 <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i>	2 <i>Gonyaulax polygramma</i> , <i>Chaetoceros salsugineum</i>	Nil
Tsuen Wan	Nil	Nil	1 <i>Noctiluca scintillans</i>

- (c) to (d) There were no confirmed reports of massive fish deaths in fish culture zones and fish ponds due to water quality, pollution or inclement weather over the past 3 years.
- (e) to (f) When there is a red tide incident which may pose significant threat to marine fish culture, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will provide immediate support to the concerned mariculturists, including helping relocate fish rafts away from the red tide area and disposing fish carcasses.

AFCD may open application for the Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) having regard to the impacts and the scale caused by natural disasters. Over the past 3 years, there were no incidents due to red tides or massive fish deaths that had necessitated ERF applications. On the other hand, ERF was opened to mariculturists and pond fish farmers with respect to fish losses due to Super Typhoon Hato in 2017-18 and heavy rainstorms and Super Typhoon Mangkhut in 2018-19. Details are as follows:

Category	2017-18		2018-19	
	Number of applications received (approved)	Amount issued (\$ million)	Number of applications received (approved)	Amount issued (\$ million)
Marine fish farmers	239 (200)	1.6	478 (434)	6.5
Pond fish farmers	45 (39)	0.5	56 (32)	0.4
Total	284 (239)	2.1	534 (466)	6.9

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)044

(Question Serial No. 1165)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please set out the numbers, sizes and distribution of the vegetable farms, flower farms, organic farms, leisure farms, vegetable marketing co-operative societies, vegetable depots, farms in industrial buildings, fish rafts and licences for marine fish culture, fish ponds and oyster breeding rafts currently in operation.
- (b) What are the numbers, sizes and distribution of local pig farms and chicken farms, and the licensed rearing capacity of each farm over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)? Please set out the information with a breakdown by the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

- (a) As at 31 December 2018, there were about 2 400 crop farms (including vegetables, flowers and orchards) with a total cultivated area of about 740 hectares. These farms are mainly located in the North District and Yuen Long. Amongst these crop farms, there are 306 organic vegetable farms which have joined the Organic Farming Support Service Scheme of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department with a total area of about 105 hectares. It is estimated that there are 129 leisure farms with a total area of about 130 hectares. There are also 8 farms located in industrial buildings in Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing, Tsuen Wan, Shatin, Tai Po and Yau Tong Districts with a total area of 1.5 hectares.

Information on the number and distribution of vegetable marketing co-operative societies (VMCSs) and vegetable depots as at 31 December 2018 by district is tabulated below.

District	VMCS	Vegetable depots
Yuen Long	13	0
North	9	0
Tuen Mun	3	1
Islands	2	0
Tai Po	1	0
Tsuen Wan	1	0
Total	29	1

Information of marine fish culture farms, pond fish farms and oyster rafts as at 31 December 2018 is as follows:

- (i) There were about 930 licensed marine fish culture farms with about 1 950 fish rafts in 25 designated Fish Culture Zones*. The size of farms ranged from 13 to about 6 800 m².
- (ii) There were about 330 pond fish farms with about 1 400 fish ponds, mainly in the north-west New Territories. The size of pond fish farms ranged from 80 to 424 810 m².
- (iii) There were about 8 400 oyster rafts in Deep Bay, the size of which ranged from 96 to 300 m².

* There are 26 designated Fish Culture Zones located at Sha Tau Kok, Ap Chau, Kat O, O Pui Tong, Sai Lau Kong, Wong Wan, Tap Mun, Kau Lau Wan, Sham Wan, Lo Fu Wat, Yung Shue Au, Leung Shuen Wan, Tiu Cham Wan, Tai Tau Chau, Kai Lung Wan, Kau Sai, Ma Nam Wat, Po Toi O, Po Toi, Sok Ku Wan, Lo Tik Wan, Ma Wan, Yim Tin Tsai, Cheung Sha Wan, Yim Tin Tsai (East) and Tung Lung Chau respectively. There were no licensed marine fish culture farms in Tiu Cham Wan Fish Culture Zone.

- (b) Over the past 3 years, the number of local pig farms and chicken farms remained the same as 43 and 29 respectively. The licensed areas, licensed rearing capacities- and distribution of these farms as at 31 December 2018 are tabulated below.

Pig farms (by calendar year)

	2016			2017			2018		
	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District
1	691.19	500	North	691.19	500	North	691.19	500	North
2	1 611.16	950	North	1 611.16	950	North	1 611.16	950	North
3	2 407.85	2 000	North	2 407.85	2 000	North	2 407.85	2 000	North
4	4 953.09	4 000	North	4 953.09	4 000	North	4 953.09	4 000	North

	2016			2017			2018		
	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District
5	557.91	800	North	557.91	800	North	557.91	800	North
6	1 280.91	600	North	1 280.91	600	North	1 280.91	600	North
7	4 248.04	3 000	Yuen Long	4 248.04	3 000	Yuen Long	4 248.04	3 000	Yuen Long
8	388.79	350	Sai Kung	388.79	350	Sai Kung	388.79	350	Sai Kung
9	706.90	1 000	Yuen Long	706.90	1 000	Yuen Long	706.90	1 000	Yuen Long
10	1 142.90	600	Yuen Long	1 142.90	600	Yuen Long	1 142.90	600	Yuen Long
11	5 085.70	1 500	Yuen Long	5 085.70	1 500	Yuen Long	5 085.70	1 500	Yuen Long
12	3 130.14	1 500	Yuen Long	3 130.14	1 500	Yuen Long	3 130.14	1 500	Yuen Long
13	938.49	850	Yuen Long	938.49	850	Yuen Long	938.49	850	Yuen Long
14	1 864.27	600	Yuen Long	1 864.27	600	Yuen Long	1 864.27	600	Yuen Long
15	3 015.53	2 000	Yuen Long	3 015.53	2 000	Yuen Long	3 015.53	2 000	Yuen Long
16	3 914.32	3 000	Yuen Long	3 914.32	3 000	Yuen Long	3 914.32	3 000	Yuen Long
17	2 640.33	2 600	Yuen Long	2 640.33	2 600	Yuen Long	2 765.33	2 600	Yuen Long
18	3 965.31	2 000	Yuen Long	3 965.31	2 000	Yuen Long	3 965.31	2 000	Yuen Long
19	2 146.27	1 600	Yuen Long	2 146.27	1 600	Yuen Long	2 146.27	1 600	Yuen Long
20	384.65	300	Yuen Long	384.65	300	Yuen Long	384.65	300	Yuen Long
21	2 220.09	1 000	Yuen Long	2 220.09	1 000	Yuen Long	2 220.09	1 000	Yuen Long
22	1 725.58	1 900	Yuen Long	1 725.58	1 900	Yuen Long	1 725.58	1 900	Yuen Long
23	838.59	1 500	Yuen Long	838.59	1 500	Yuen Long	838.59	1 500	Yuen Long
24	1 709.24	1 500	Yuen Long	1 709.24	1 500	Yuen Long	1 709.24	1 500	Yuen Long
25	1 612.44	1 000	Yuen Long	1 612.44	1 000	Yuen Long	902.78	1 000	Yuen Long
26	2 960.03	3 500	Yuen Long	2 960.03	3 500	Yuen Long	2 960.03	3 500	Yuen Long
27	1 327.53	1 000	Yuen Long	1 327.53	1 000	Yuen Long	1 327.53	1 000	Yuen Long
28	2 614.85	2 000	Yuen Long	2 614.85	2 000	Yuen Long	2 614.85	2 000	Yuen Long

	2016			2017			2018		
	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District
29	3 699.22	1 800	Yuen Long	3 699.22	1 800	Yuen Long	3 699.22	1 800	Yuen Long
30	6 345.66	6 000	Yuen Long	6 345.66	6 000	Yuen Long	6 345.66	6 000	Yuen Long
31	4 524.78	2 600	Yuen Long	4 524.78	2 600	Yuen Long	4 524.78	2 600	Yuen Long
32	3 955.47	2 500	Yuen Long	3 955.47	2 500	Yuen Long	3 955.47	2 500	Yuen Long
33	1 374.87	1 200	Yuen Long	1 374.87	1 200	Yuen Long	1 374.87	1 200	Yuen Long
34	1 239.02	1 500	North	1 239.02	1 500	North	1 239.02	1 500	North
35	2 860.03	1 500	Yuen Long	2 860.03	1 500	Yuen Long	2 860.03	1 500	Yuen Long
36	556.96	250	North	556.96	250	North	556.96	250	North
37	1 392.30	1 990	Yuen Long	1 392.30	1 990	Yuen Long	1 392.30	1 990	Yuen Long
38	626.82	450	Yuen Long	626.82	450	Yuen Long	626.82	450	Yuen Long
39	1 923.26	1 500	Yuen Long	1 923.26	1 500	Yuen Long	1 923.26	1 500	Yuen Long
40	7 108.62	4 000	Yuen Long	7 108.62	4 000	Yuen Long	7 108.62	4 000	Yuen Long
41	4 106.13	3 000	Yuen Long	4 106.13	3 000	Yuen Long	4 106.13	3 000	Yuen Long
42	3 205.77	2 000	Yuen Long	3 205.77	2 000	Yuen Long	3 205.77	2 000	Yuen Long
43	1 180.97	1 200	Yuen Long	1 180.97	1 200	Yuen Long	1 180.97	1 200	Yuen Long
Total	104 181.98	74 640		104 181.98	74 640		103 597.32	74 640	

Chicken farms (by calendar year)

	2016			2017			2018		
	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District
1	433.41	10 000	Tuen Mun	433.41	10 000	Tuen Mun	433.41	10 000	Tuen Mun
2	708.10	18 000	North	708.10	18 000	North	708.10	18 000	North
3	2 597.37	50 000	Yuen Long	2 597.37	50 000	Yuen Long	2 597.37	50 000	Yuen Long
4	387.23	10 000	Yuen Long	387.23	10 000	Yuen Long	387.23	10 000	Yuen Long

	2016			2017			2018		
	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District
5	648.36	20 000	Yuen Long	648.36	20 000	Yuen Long	648.36	20 000	Yuen Long
6	723.86	19 900	Yuen Long	723.86	19 900	Yuen Long	723.86	19 900	Yuen Long
7	569.30	25 000	Yuen Long	569.30	25 000	Yuen Long	569.30	25 000	Yuen Long
8	682.16	19 000	Yuen Long	682.16	19 000	Yuen Long	682.16	19 000	Yuen Long
9	3 372.57	35 000	Yuen Long	3 372.57	35 000	Yuen Long	3 372.57	35 000	Yuen Long
10	775.26	20 000	Yuen Long	775.26	20 000	Yuen Long	775.26	20 000	Yuen Long
11	1 336.34	39 000	Yuen Long	1 336.34	39 000	Yuen Long	1 336.34	39 000	Yuen Long
12	2 004.75	41 000	Yuen Long	2 004.75	41 000	Yuen Long	2 004.75	41 000	Yuen Long
13	4 518.98	48 000	North	4 518.98	48 000	North	4 518.98	48 000	North
14	4 604.03	102 000	Yuen Long	4 604.03	102 000	Yuen Long	4 604.03	102 000	Yuen Long
15	3 226.20	108 000	Yuen Long	3 226.20	108 000	Yuen Long	3 226.20	108 000	Yuen Long
16	948.17	18 000	Yuen Long	948.17	18 000	Yuen Long	948.17	18 000	Yuen Long
17	3 163.24	70 000	Yuen Long	3 163.24	70 000	Yuen Long	3 163.24	70 000	Yuen Long
18	2 944.67	62 800	Yuen Long	2 944.67	62 800	Yuen Long	2 944.67	62 800	Yuen Long
19	1 757.95	38 500	North	1 757.95	38 500	North	1 757.95	38 500	North
20	2 477.98	46 000	Yuen Long	2 477.98	46 000	Yuen Long	2 477.98	46 000	Yuen Long
21	10 454.52	162 300	Yuen Long	10 454.52	162 300	Yuen Long	10 454.52	162 300	Yuen Long
22	4 831.83	80 000	Yuen Long	4 831.83	80 000	Yuen Long	4 831.83	80 000	Yuen Long
23	1 563.39	48 000	Yuen Long	1 563.39	48 000	Yuen Long	1 563.39	48 000	Yuen Long
24	1 137.70	48 000	Yuen Long	1 137.70	48 000	Yuen Long	1 137.70	48 000	Yuen Long
25	873.34	27 000	North	873.34	27 000	North	873.34	27 000	North
26	1 610.01	26 000	Yuen Long	1 610.01	26 000	Yuen Long	1 610.01	26 000	Yuen Long
27	1 655.73	36 000	Yuen Long	1 655.73	36 000	Yuen Long	1 655.73	36 000	Yuen Long
28	1 250.84	42 000	Yuen Long	1 250.84	42 000	Yuen Long	1 250.84	42 000	Yuen Long

	2016			2017			2018		
	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District	Licensed area (m ²)	Licensed capacity (number)	District
29	1 067.54	31 000	Yuen Long	1 067.54	31 000	Yuen Long	1 067.54	31 000	Yuen Long
Total	62 324.83	1 300 500		62 324.83	300 500		62 324.83	1 300 500	

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)045

(Question Serial No. 1166)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the issue of capture fishermen, please advise on the following:

- (a) The numbers of Hong Kong fishermen (those who could only operate in Hong Kong), the numbers of their fishing vessels, and their production values over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (b) The numbers of Hong Kong fishermen (those who could only operate in Mainland China), the numbers of their fishing vessels, and their production values over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (c) The numbers of Hong Kong fishermen (those who could operate both in Mainland China and Hong Kong), the numbers of their fishing vessels, and their production values over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (d) The total numbers of Hong Kong fishermen, the numbers of their fishing vessels, and their production values over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

- (a) to (d) Vessels navigating in Hong Kong are required to possess a valid operating licence issued by the Marine Department (MD) which certifies the vessels' safety and seaworthiness. Vessels engaging in fishing operations in Hong Kong waters are required to further register with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171). The number of fishing vessels registered with MD, local fishing vessels registered with AFCD, local capture fishermen and their production values in the past 3 years is tabulated below.

In order to conduct fishing operations in Mainland waters, the vessels have to meet the requirements of the relevant Mainland authorities. Since we do not have the information of Hong Kong vessels that are permitted to operate in Mainland waters, information on fishermen and fishing vessels that could operate only in Mainland waters or in both Mainland and Hong Kong waters is not available.

Calendar year (as at the end of the period)	Number of local fishing vessels registered with MD [#]	Number of registered local fishing vessels registered with AFCD	Number of local capture fishermen [^]	Production value (\$ million) [^]	
				From Hong Kong waters	From waters outside Hong Kong
2016	6 631	4 121	10 790	860	1,700
2017	6 502	4 120	10 600	860	1,740
2018	6 505	4 145	10 240	966	1,789

[#] Based on MD's information on the number of fishing vessels (Class III vessel) licensed under the Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Certification and Licensing) Regulation (Cap. 548D).

[^] Based on the fisheries survey on capture fishermen conducted by AFCD.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)046

(Question Serial No. 1167)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the New Agriculture Policy, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the total expenditures and manpower involved in the establishment of the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund, the Agricultural Park and the Agricultural Priority Areas over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What is the current estimated total expenditure involved in the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund, the Agricultural Park and the Agricultural Priority Areas?
- (c) Since the introduction of the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Farm Improvement Scheme, how many project applications received, approved, rejected and are being examined? What are these projects by type (e.g. planting, culture, industrial buildings or others)?
- (d) Further to the above question, what were the total numbers of persons, and, among all, the numbers of existing farmers benefited since the launch of the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Farm Improvement Scheme thereunder over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (e) What is the progress of the work on the Agricultural Park and the Agricultural Priority Areas? What are the estimated work schedules for the two projects?
- (f) What were the details, expenditures and manpower involved in promoting the sustainable development of agriculture (e.g. the development of eco-tourism, leisure agricultural industries, agricultural industries employing innovative technology and other sustainable agriculture, etc.) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?

(g) What are the details, estimated expenditure and manpower involved in planning and promoting the sustainable development of agriculture in 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

(a) to (b) We have been implementing the New Agriculture Policy (NAP) since 2016 to promote the modernisation and sustainable development of the local agricultural sector. The expenditure and manpower of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) involved in administering the \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF), preparing for the establishment of the Agriculture Park (the Agri-Park) and commissioning a consultancy study on Agricultural Priority Areas (APAs) under the NAP over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2016-17	5.1	13
2017-18	7.5	16
2018-19 (revised estimate)	8.3	17

In 2019-20, \$14.8 million has been earmarked for implementing the above work.

(c) to (d) As at 1 March 2019, a total of 249 applications seeking financial assistance for individual farms to acquire farming equipment and/or materials from the Farm Improvement Scheme (FIS) under SADF have been received. 238 applications have been approved, involving a total funding commitment of about \$7 million. 3 applications have been rejected and 4 applications withdrawn. The rest are being processed.

In addition, a total of 34 applications seeking funding support for projects that will benefit the local agricultural industry as a whole have been received. Among them, 7 applications have been approved and 7 rejected on the advice of SADF Advisory Committee, 3 withdrawn by the applicants, 1 returned to the applicant (for further supplement / re-submission if necessary) and 3 found to be ineligible to apply for the fund. The other applications are being processed. 4 approved projects have been implemented since the first quarter of 2019. The project proposals are summarised as follows:

Category	Number of applications	
	received	approved
Promoting farm mechanisation and modernisation	6	1
Research and development of new products and new farming practices, and transfer of knowledge	19	3

Category	Number of applications	
	received	approved
Facilitating rehabilitation of fallow agricultural land	2	0
Promoting brand-building and marketing of local agricultural produce	7	3
Total	34	7

Upon completion of these projects, the actual number of farmers benefitting from them will be assessed.

- (e) We will establish an Agri-Park in Kwu Tung South to help nurture agro-technology and knowledge on modern farm management. The Agri-Park will be developed in 2 phases. Phase 1 will be developed in a relatively small scale (about 11 hectares) with a view to enabling its partial commissioning for use by farmers as early as possible. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee in the first half of 2019, with a view to commencing the construction works in the fourth quarter of 2019.

To ensure that sufficient land will be available to meet the needs of the agricultural sector, a consultancy study is being conducted to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land as APAs, and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage owners to put currently fallow land into long-term agricultural use by crop and livestock farmers. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland in Hong Kong and studying overseas experience, before making recommendations. Given that a considerable amount of agricultural land is involved in the study, it is estimated that the study may take several years to complete.

- (f) to (g) AFCD promotes the sustainable development of local agriculture through measures such as (i) developing new farming techniques to raise productivity; (ii) introducing new and improved crop varieties for local cultivation; (iii) promoting leisure farming and organic farming; (iv) assisting in setting up farmers' markets to help farmers reach out to customers and organising the annual FarmFest to showcase local agricultural and fishery production; (v) administering 3 funds to provide loans to farmers as development and/or working capital; and (vi) implementing the various measures under NAP. The expenditure and manpower involved in the above area of work are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2016-17	42.1	91
2017-18	48.3	99
2018-19 (revised estimate)	59.7	114

In 2019-20, 122 staff and \$67.6 million have been earmarked for this area of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)047

(Question Serial No. 1168)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the loans in relation to the agriculture and fisheries industries, please advise on the following:

- (a) Currently, what loans does the Government provide to the agriculture and fisheries industries respectively?
- (b) Over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19), what were the numbers of applications for the above loans, the numbers of loans approved, the total amount of the fund(s) and the total loans granted in respective year?
- (c) Over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19), what were the expenditures and manpower involved in handling the above loans?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Currently, the Government provides credit facility to crop and fish farmers and fishermen through 7 loan funds administered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). They are the J.E. Joseph Trust Fund, the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund, the Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund, the Fisheries Development Loan Fund, the Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund, the World Refugee Year Loan Fund and the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund.

The total capital of the above loan funds, the number of applications, the number of loans and amount issued over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Capital (as at 31 December) (\$ million)	Number of loans		Amount of loans issued [#] (\$ million)
		Applications	Issued [*]	
2016	1,295.4	276	287	217.9
2017	1,296.1	466	459	240.1
2018	1,296.9	669	670	250.5

^{*} Referring to the number of loans with their first instalment issued in the respective calendar year.

[#] Referring to the total amount of loans issued in the respective calendar year, including all stages of instalments.

- (c) The expenditure and manpower involved in the administration of the agriculture and fisheries loan funds are subsumed in the allocation to AFCD for promoting the sustainable development of local agriculture and fisheries, and no separate breakdown is available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)048

(Question Serial No. 1170)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the waters in Hong Kong, in which the entry of fishing vessels and fishing are permitted, please advise on the following:

- (a) Please indicate on a map the areas in which the entry of fishing vessel and different types of fishing operation are permitted.
- (b) Other than airside, principal fairways, waters subject to the traffic separation scheme (except the dividing strips), various typhoon shelters, the areas stipulated in Section 14 of Cap. 548F of the Laws of Hong Kong, the Core Areas in marine parks, the marine reserve, fish culture zones, public bathing beaches, waters undergoing reclamation and the Kwai Chung Control Station, are there any other waters in Hong Kong, where fishing and entry of fishing vessels are not permitted? What are the respective sizes of the waters where entry of fishing vessels and fishing are not permitted, and that of the waters where these activities are permitted in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

Hong Kong waters are generally available for fishing with the use of fishing vessels, except in certain areas such as the core areas of marine parks, marine reserve, fish culture zones, typhoon shelters, principal fairways, restricted areas of the airport, public bathing beaches and works areas of reclamation projects. These areas are under the purview of a number of different departments such as the Marine Department for principal fairways, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department for public bathing beaches, various works departments for reclamation projects, and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for marine parks, marine reserve and fish culture zones. AFCD does not have comprehensive and precise technical information on areas under the administration of different departments.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)049

(Question Serial No. 1171)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the threats posed by natural and different types of disasters on the agriculture and fisheries industries, what resources and measures would the Government put in place in 2019-20 to enhance the wind resisting capability of fish ponds and farms?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

In order to enhance the capability of the agriculture and fisheries in coping with inclement weather including typhoons and heavy rainstorms, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducts adaptive studies on fish and crop farming, such as indoor farming using recirculating aquaculture systems, controlled environment greenhouse technology and indoor hydroponic cultivation technology that can ensure continued production under adverse weather conditions. AFCD makes known the technology and skills to farmers through farm visits, seminars and training courses. Technical advice is also provided to assist farmers in erecting structures for protecting crops from heavy rains and strong winds. In addition, both the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund could be used by the trade to fund projects to study how to enhance the wind resisting capability of farms, or to fund the acquisition of protective structures and materials.

AFCD provides early warnings to crop and fish pond farmers to prepare for imminent typhoons and rainstorms, including early harvest, clearance of blocked drains, etc. Depending on the impact of the inclement weather, the Emergency Relief Fund may be opened for application to provide emergency financial relief to affected farmers.

As the above work forms part of the ongoing work of AFCD in supporting the agricultural and fisheries sectors, there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure and manpower involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)050

(Question Serial No. 1173)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (661) Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the 3 items under Subhead 661, please advise on the following:

- (a) What are the contents involved under Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote), Works, as well as Plant, vehicles and equipment?
- (b) Why is there no estimate for the Works starting from 2018-19?
- (c) Why is there no estimate for the Plant, vehicles and equipment starting from 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

- (a) The financial provision under Subhead 661 for 2019-20 is mainly for replacement / procurement of various systems and equipment, with breakdown as follows:

Systems and equipment to be replaced / procured	Financial provision for 2019-20 (\$ million)
(i) Patrol vessels and a hovercraft for patrol and law enforcement duties under various Ordinances as well as for red tide and water quality monitoring	33.851
(ii) Power supply and lighting system for wholesale food markets and the Hong Kong Wetland Park	5.685

Systems and equipment to be replaced / procured	Financial provision for 2019-20 (\$ million)
(iii) Veterinary laboratory equipment and system for animal disease testing	4.165
(iv) Global Navigation Satellite System survey receiver for country park management	0.333
Total	44.034

(b) and (c) Starting from 2018-19, the estimates for capital non-works items each costing less than \$10 million have been subsumed under subheads 609, 610 and 661. The financial provisions related to works are set out in subheads 609 and 610 whereas those related to plant, vehicles and equipment are set out in subhead 661.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)051

(Question Serial No. 1175)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the figures in relation to the agriculture and fisheries industries, please advise on the following:

- (a) Regarding page 39 of the Controlling Officer's Report, how does the Government calculate the fisheries "production" currently? How is the production of the fisheries products not marketed via the Fish Marketing Organization calculated?
- (b) Regarding page 39 of the Controlling Officer's Report, how does the Government calculate the agricultural "production" currently? How is the production of the agricultural products not marketed via the Vegetable Marketing Organization calculated?
- (c) Regarding page 39 of the Controlling Officer's Report, what is granted under "new grants" and "new loans" for the agriculture and fisheries industries?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The agriculture and fisheries productions, and the quantities of the agricultural and fisheries products not marketed through the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) and the Fish Marketing Organization (FMO) are estimated based on information collected in regular surveys conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department as well as information compiled by VMO, FMO and local slaughterhouses.
- (c) "New loans" refer to the agricultural and fisheries loans, made under the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund, the J.E. Joseph Trust Fund, the Vegetable Marketing Organisation Loan Fund, the Fisheries Development Loan

Fund, the Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund (including normal loans and special fishing moratorium loans), the World Refugee Year Loan Fund and the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund, with their first instalment issued in the year. “New grants” refer to the projects funded by the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund with their first instalment of grants disbursed in the year.

- End

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)052

(Question Serial No. 1177)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding water quality, please advise on the following:

- (a) What are the mechanism and standard currently adopted by the Government to assess whether the water quality is suitable for fish culture? Has there been any occasion in which the water quality in the 26 fish culture zones was unsuitable for fish culture over the past 3 years? What are the details?
- (b) What are the mechanism and standard currently adopted by the Government to assess the impacts of the water quality around marine works to fisheries resources? Has there been any occasion in which the water quality in local fishing grounds was unsuitable for fish culture over the past 3 years? What are the details?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

- (a) Marine water quality is measured by a set of quality objectives (WQOs) established under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 358) (WPCO). The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department monitors the quality of fish culture zones (FCZs) having regard to 4 WQOs, viz dissolved oxygen, pH, unionised ammonia and *E. coli*. Over the past 3 years, the water quality in all 26 FCZs was in general suitable for mariculture as it complied with the aforesaid 4 WQOs levels, and there was no incident during the period that had caused massive fish kills or impact on FCZs of a permanent nature.
- (b) The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance (Cap. 499) requires proponents of designated projects to assess the potential environmental impacts. Fisheries impact assessment is conducted as part of an EIA study for a proposed development project that may affect fishing and aquaculture activities, fisheries

resources and production, as well as fisheries habitats, fishing grounds, nursery and spawning grounds and aquaculture sites. In addition, project proponents are also required to implement Environmental Monitoring and Audit (EM&A) programmes to monitor the water quality as required by the Director of Environmental Protection. Over the past 3 years, no unacceptable impacts arising from marine works on fisheries had been identified in EIAs, or reported under the monitoring of EM&A programmes.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)053****(Question Serial No. 1181)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the wholesaling of fish, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the annual total and daily average wholesale quantities, as well as the highest and lowest figures thereof for different kinds of marine fish (including Golden thread, Horse-heads, Yellow croakers, Big-eyes, Scads, Breams, Hair-tails, Mackerels, Croakers, Filefish, etc.) and freshwater fish (including Grass carp, Big head, Mud carp, etc.) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What were the monthly average, the highest and lowest prices for different kinds of marine fish (including Golden thread, Horse-heads, Yellow croakers, Big-eyes, Scads, Breams, Hair-tails, Mackerels, Croakers, Filefish, etc.) and freshwater fish (including Grass carp, Big head, Mud carp, etc.) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)Reply:

- (a) Information on the quantity of freshwater fish traded through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years is shown below. We do not have a breakdown on the figures for different kinds of freshwater fish.

Calendar year	Total quantity (tonnes)	Daily average quantity (tonnes)	Highest daily quantity (tonnes)	Lowest daily quantity (tonnes)
2016	47 362	129	221	33
2017	41 196	113	160	24
2018	43 468	119	205	16

Information on the wholesale quantity of marine fish traded over the past 3 years (2016 to 2018) is shown in **Annex A**.

- (b) Information on the monthly value of freshwater fish traded through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years is shown below. We do not have breakdown on the figures for different kinds of freshwater fish.

Calendar year	Monthly average wholesale value (\$/tonne)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	26,740	27,070	26,651	26,615 [^]	26,768	26,835	27,389	27,133	27,364	27,601 [*]	27,238	27,146
2017	27,090	26,866	26,532	26,365 [^]	26,671	26,764	27,155	27,522	27,639	27,671	27,716 [*]	27,271
2018	27,590 [^]	28,512	28,328	28,898	29,588 [*]	29,003	28,753	28,677	28,886	28,799	28,602	28,345

^{*} Highest monthly average value in the respective calendar year

[^] Lowest monthly average value in the respective calendar year

Information on the monthly average wholesale price of marine fish over the past 3 years (2016 to 2018) is shown in **Annex B**.

- End -

Wholesale quantity of marine fish over the past 3 years (2016 to 2018)

Calendar year	Fish	Total quantity (tonnes)	Daily average quantity (tonnes)	Highest daily quantity (tonnes)	Lowest daily quantity (tonnes)
2016	Golden thread (紅衫)	3 127.3	8.5	10.8	6.2
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	2 874.0	7.9	10.3	4.8
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	1 708.4	4.7	5.5	3.9
	Big-eyes (木棉)	2 680.8	7.3	9.0	4.6
	Scads (池魚)	1 578.1	4.3	5.7	2.4
	Breams (立魚)	1 855.9	5.1	5.7	3.4
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	1 567.0	4.3	5.1	2.4
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	1 566.5	4.3	4.7	2.5
	Croakers (或魚)	820.6	2.2	3.1	1.4
2017	Golden thread (紅衫)	2 901.2	7.9	9.2	6.5
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	2 806.6	7.7	10.2	6.3
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	1 997.9	5.5	7.1	4.0
	Big-eyes (木棉)	2 173.9	6.0	8.1	3.9
	Scads (池魚)	1 283.9	3.5	5.2	1.6
	Breams (立魚)	1 965.4	5.4	6.7	4.4
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	1 374.9	3.8	5.3	2.7
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	1 438.5	3.9	4.9	3.4
	Croakers (或魚)	858.3	2.4	3.2	1.5
2018	Golden thread (紅衫)	2 862.3	7.8	9.4	4.6
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	3 097.2	8.5	9.9	5.0
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	2 252.1	6.2	7.3	3.8
	Big-eyes (木棉)	2 119.9	5.8	7.9	4.2
	Scads (池魚)	1 152.6	3.2	4.1	1.9

Calendar year	Fish	Total quantity (tonnes)	Daily average quantity (tonnes)	Highest daily quantity (tonnes)	Lowest daily quantity (tonnes)
	Breams (立魚)	1 870.4	5.1	5.9	3.9
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	1 215.7	3.3	3.9	2.0
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	1 459.5	4.0	4.8	2.2
	Croakers (或魚)	668.8	1.8	2.5	1.0

Data on Filefish (沙魴) are not readily available.

Monthly average wholesale price of marine fish over the past 3 years (2016 to 2018)

Calendar year	Fish	Monthly average wholesale price (\$/kg)											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	Golden thread (紅衫)	67.67	67.73	66.43	64.59	72.24	81.22*	79.09	72.71	57.45	54.83^	63.29	63.21
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	54.23	52.97	54.14	54.49*	52.57	52.78	50.60	48.50	41.78^	46.85	45.15	44.64
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	84.95	74.44^	104.37*	89.73	86.64	81.07	79.93	81.73	85.83	81.32	89.08	98.36
	Big-eyes (木棉)	69.72^	70.55	71.59	74.23	78.19	85.83	85.96*	80.88	73.92	74.05	75.21	79.87
	Scads (池魚)	20.07	20.52	19.89	19.04	20.77	23.54	25.05*	20.28	18.27^	19.06	18.48	20.12
	Breams (立魚)	76.80	78.85	79.87	78.89	82.31	91.64	93.54*	80.42	66.77^	69.96	74.59	81.35
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	41.64^	43.47	42.77	42.76	44.97	50.92	53.45*	48.78	45.94	47.02	43.94	45.17
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	65.21^	67.56	67.34	68.56	72.55	75.84	76.08*	73.26	73.66	66.10	70.86	69.48
	Croakers (或魚)	23.84	24.57	23.60	22.53^	24.58	29.09	29.10	29.73*	25.69	23.12	23.13	24.02
2017	Golden thread (紅衫)	62.64^	77.61	69.14	66.10	77.60	83.36	84.56*	82.98	64.97	67.03	74.43	82.20
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	51.14	53.70	55.07	47.27^	52.53	55.85	54.73	53.58	47.51	47.56	56.06*	54.21
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	115.13	106.17	134.73*	131.81	91.29	78.36	81.95	79.66	76.72^	92.37	100.72	98.64
	Big-eyes (木棉)	81.15	89.61	85.81	85.08	87.85	94.90	95.33	93.18	80.35^	86.34	94.42	97.17*
	Scads (池魚)	21.75	22.01	20.21	20.78	25.14	29.59*	29.34	25.27	17.65^	20.24	22.01	22.39
	Breams (立魚)	85.78	90.93*	88.49	85.35	87.89	90.38	88.76	87.57	78.54^	83.71	86.51	89.64
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	45.28	49.89	44.39	46.37	50.26	57.05*	55.89	53.89	43.77^	44.47	45.61	47.05

Calendar year	Fish	Monthly average wholesale price (\$/kg)											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	76.24	78.14	75.71	78.99	80.34	84.87*	82.55	79.03	63.81^	69.22	70.19	75.10
	Croakers (或魚)	23.78	24.20	23.26^	27.00	28.54	33.79	34.58*	34.33	27.44	24.97	26.41	28.42
2018	Golden thread (紅衫)	81.80	76.16	75.80	71.06^	72.43	79.20	81.04	84.41*	72.77	77.74	74.77	74.47
	Horse-heads (馬頭)	55.60	54.78	58.33	54.45	55.60	60.53	64.76*	63.45	54.37^	56.03	57.27	59.58
	Yellow croakers (黃花)	104.90	112.17*	103.21	103.18	85.38	82.69	79.68^	79.93	93.02	104.01	107.93	104.99
	Big-eyes (木棉)	106.65	99.79^	102.13	108.65	103.33	116.79	118.45*	118.34	101.25	115.35	107.78	112.78
	Scads (池魚)	23.29^	24.01	25.34	25.99	29.08	27.02	30.23	32.20*	26.30	25.95	24.44	28.79
	Breams (立魚)	91.88	98.91	97.96	95.95	95.14	101.36*	100.78	101.20	86.35^	86.98	94.32	98.35
	Hair-tails (牙帶)	48.05	49.32	48.60	51.57	52.37	52.18	53.29	55.02*	47.17^	47.42	48.36	51.56
	Mackerels (鮫魚)	76.85	76.90	75.53	74.60	75.80	76.91	74.62	75.59	68.68^	71.93	70.75	76.94*
	Croakers (或魚)	32.63	31.95	30.67	29.57	31.43	35.07*	34.14	30.27	26.19	26.12^	28.40	31.31

Data on Filefish (沙鯪) are not readily available.

* Highest monthly average wholesale price in the respective calendar year.

^ Lowest monthly average wholesale price in the respective calendar year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)054****(Question Serial No. 1182)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the wholesaling of vegetables, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the annual total and daily average wholesale quantity, as well as the highest and lowest figures thereof for different kinds of vegetables (including flowering cabbage, water cress, white cabbage, broccoli, Chinese lettuce, green cabbage, chrysanthemum garland, tomato, Chinese kale, pea shoot, European celery, potato and spinach, etc.) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What were the monthly average, the highest and lowest value for different kinds of vegetables (including flowering cabbage, water cress, white cabbage, broccoli, Chinese lettuce, green cabbage, chrysanthemum garland, tomato, Chinese kale, pea shoot, European celery, potato and spinach, etc.) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)Reply:

- (a) In respect of vegetables transacted through government wholesale markets, the information sought is tabulated below. We do not have the breakdown on the figures for different kinds of vegetables.

Calendar year	Quantity (tonne)			
	Total	Daily average	Highest daily	Lowest daily
2016	238 163	651	808	103
2017	240 617	659	842	60
2018	252 022	690	894	49

- (b) The monthly average value, the highest and the lowest monthly average value for vegetables transacted through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years are tabulated below. We do not have the breakdown on the figures for different kinds of vegetables.

Calendar year	Monthly average wholesale value (\$ / tonne)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	7,560 [^]	10,985 [*]	9,967	10,057	8,791	8,259	8,209	8,555	8,713	7,985	8,840	8,025
2017	9,792	9,799	9,225	9,116	8,948 [^]	9,501	10,390	10,386	10,885 [*]	10,750	10,452	10,445
2018	10,345	11,507	10,925	10,295 [^]	10,451	11,113	11,742 [*]	11,175	11,686	11,699	10,888	10,826

^{*} Highest monthly value

[^] Lowest monthly value

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)055****(Question Serial No. 1183)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the wholesale of eggs, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the annual total and daily average wholesale quantities, as well as the highest and lowest figures thereof for different kinds of eggs (including Brown-shelled egg (medium) from the Mainland, Grade II brown-shelled eggs from Germany (360/box), brown-shelled eggs (medium) from the USA, etc.) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What were the monthly average, the highest and lowest prices for different kinds of eggs (including brown-shelled eggs (medium) from the Mainland, Grade II brown-shelled eggs from Germany (360/box), brown-shelled eggs (medium) from the USA, etc.) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 66)Reply:

- (a) The volume of hen eggs transacted through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years is tabulated below. We do not have the breakdown in terms of the types of eggs and the places of origin.

Calendar year	Quantities (tonnes)			
	Total	Daily average	Highest daily	Lowest daily
2016	65 842	180	392	6
2017	66 102	181	392	4
2018	62 964	173	337	1

- (b) The monthly average price, the highest and the lowest monthly average price for brown-shelled medium eggs from the Mainland and USA transacted through government wholesale food markets over the past 3 years are tabulated below. We do not have similar figures for brown-shelled medium eggs or other types of eggs from other places of origin.

Calendar year	Monthly average wholesale price (\$ / tonne) for brown-shelled medium eggs (the Mainland)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	14,097	15,738 [*]	15,052	15,320	14,658	13,520	12,794	12,316 [^]	14,267	13,252	13,707	13,877
2017	13,865	13,657	13,465	12,747	11,574	11,333 [^]	12,703	14,258	15,000	14,665	14,580	15,103 [*]
2018	15,458	15,314	15,110 [^]	15,633	15,245	15,267	15,561	15,523	15,820	15,910 [*]	15,693	15,774

Calendar year	Monthly average wholesale price (\$ / tonne) for brown-shelled medium eggs (USA)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	16,742	17,400	17,419 [*]	17,047	15,561	14,433	13,400	13,077	13,960	12,755 [^]	13,053	13,439
2017	13,510	13,736	13,748	13,587	13,523	12,880	12,103 [^]	14,181	14,993 [*]	13,452	14,093	14,329
2018	14,432	14,207 [^]	14,471	15,260	16,484 [*]	15,187	15,084	15,290	15,347	15,387	15,433	15,219

^{*} Highest monthly average wholesale price

[^] Lowest monthly average wholesale price

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)056

(Question Serial No. 3202)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the wholesale of live chickens, please advise on:

- (a) the monthly total quantities and daily average quantities of imported and local live chickens, as well as the largest and the smallest daily wholesale quantities over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (b) the monthly average prices, as well as the highest and the lowest monthly prices of imported and local live chickens over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (c) the monthly total quantities and daily average quantities of imported minor poultry, as well as the largest and the smallest daily wholesale quantities over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (d) the monthly average prices, as well as the highest and the lowest monthly prices of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (e) the monthly total quantities and daily average quantities of imported day-old chicks, as well as the largest and the smallest daily wholesale quantities over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (f) the percentage of live chickens, minor poultry and day-old chicks imported from various places over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (g) the total expenditure on handling matters on import of live chickens, day-old chicks and minor poultry (e.g. quarantine management, wholesale markets, etc.), the average expenditure on each chicken, as well as the manpower involved in 2018-19 and the estimated expenditure in 2019-20;

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

- (a) The quantity of imported and local live chickens traded through the Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market (CSWTWPM) over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Live chicken	Quantity (number)			
		Total	Daily average	Highest daily	Lowest daily
2016	Imported [#]	32 000	87	2 000	2 000
	Local	4 041 960	11 043	48 475	300
2017	Local [#]	4 199 354	11 505	43 200	6 555
2018	Local [#]	4 255 909	11 761	38 775	630

[#] There was no import of live chickens from the Mainland since 17 February 2016.

The monthly quantity of imported and local live chickens over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Live chicken	Monthly quantity											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	Imported [#]	20 000*	12 000 [^]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Local	344 191	406 393*	348 978	342 916	369 978	311 710	312 465	311 558	327 883	284 585 [^]	311 900	369 403
2017	Local [#]	417 938*	301 859 [^]	333 008	352 741	382 650	317 583	330 195	327 848	325 968	365 823	339 811	403 930
2018	Local [#]	345 889	383 084	342 672	321 507 [^]	341 159	357 033	353 087	338 127	377 841	357 908	337 165	400 437*

* Highest monthly quantity

[^] Lowest monthly quantity

[#] There was no import of live chickens from the Mainland since 17 February 2016.

- (b) The wholesale price of imported and local live chickens recorded in CSWTWPM over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Live chicken	Monthly average wholesale price (\$/kg)											
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	Imported [#]	68.97 [^]	82.67*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Local	68.33	77.23*	69.93	55.10	44.71	42.87 [^]	44.38	57.17	71.65	74.38	67.81	57.41
2017	Local [#]	47.74	52.49*	38.83	33.96 [^]	43.21	49.62	49.08	48.46	45.17	49.64	46.31	48.80
2018	Local [#]	51.52	70.91*	66.62	66.27	58.24	35.66	33.81	32.70 [^]	38.18	42.63	42.59	50.17

* Highest monthly average price in the respective calendar year

[^] Lowest monthly average price in the respective calendar year

[#] There was no import of live chickens from the Mainland since 17 February 2016.

(c) The quantity of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Quantity (number)			
	Total	Daily average	Highest daily	Lowest daily
2016	590 598	1 614	5 600	750
2017	76 720 ^{&}	210	7 350	900
2018 [#]	0	0	0	0

[&] There was no import of live minor poultry from the Mainland since 16 February 2017.

The monthly quantity of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Monthly quantity											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	51 150	36 979	45 130	48 910	58 172	8 790 [^]	42 160	53 230	53 630	61 942	73 765 [*]	56 740
2017 ^{&}	48 650 [*]	28 070 [^]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018 ^{&}	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

^{*} Highest monthly quantity

[^] Lowest monthly quantity

[&] There was no import of live minor poultry from the Mainland since 16 February 2017.

(d) The average price of imported minor poultry over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Monthly average wholesale price (\$/kg)											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	71.5	70.9 [^]	72.6	72.3	76.4	77.9	77.8	74.5	76.0	77.6	79.2 [*]	76.1
2017 ^{&}	76.6 [^]	77.7 [*]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2018 ^{&}	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

^{*} Highest monthly average price in the respective calendar year

[^] Lowest monthly average price in the respective calendar year

[&] There was no import of live minor poultry from the Mainland since 16 February 2017.

(e) The quantity of day-old chicks imported over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Quantity (number)			
	Total	Daily average	Highest daily	Lowest daily
2016	1 763 710	4 819	39 600	1 250
2017	2 011 700	5 512	34 480	2 800
2018	2 385 291	6 535	37 500	2 500

The monthly quantity of imported day-old chicks over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Monthly quantity											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2016	178 430	185 720	225 460*	184 460	182 520	30 700^	0	44 540	155 760	217 560	172 400	186 160
2017	134 800^	176 800	154 600	136 080	159 340	180 340	163 240	173 000	191 040*	177 020	190 320	175 120
2018	180 300	182 220	209 760	192 980	196 441	219 360	173 710^	184 740	214 920	229 980*	209 500	191 380

* Highest monthly quantity

^ Lowest monthly quantity

- (f) The percentage of supply of live chickens, minor poultry and day-old chicks imported from various places over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Percentage of chickens imported from			Percentage of minor poultry imported from		Percentage of day-old chicks imported from	
	Guangdong	Shenzhen	Hainan	Guangdong	Zhuhai	Guangdong	Zhuhai
2016	0	0	100	42	58	70	30
2017	-	-	-	47	53	88	12
2018	-	-	-	-	-	94	6

- (g) The revised estimate for the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) incurred on CSWTWPM in this area of work in 2018-19 is \$18.1 million and the manpower involved is 18 staff. The resources earmarked for 2019-20 are at a similar level as for 2018-19.

A total of 22 AFCD staff are deployed at the boundary control point for inspection of imported animals, including day-old chicks. The expenditure involved in the inspection of day-old chicks is absorbed within AFCD's surveillance on avian influenza (AI).

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is responsible for inspection of imported food poultry and carries out routine AI surveillance at CSWTWPM. Seven staff in FEHD are involved in AI surveillance at CSWTWPM in 2018-19. FEHD's revised expenditure in 2018-19 and the estimate for 2019-20 for AI surveillance are \$1.7 million and \$2.0 million respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)057

(Question Serial No. 0961)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the details of strengthening measures for stray animals management? What are the additional expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department implements various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals. These include:

- (a) actively promoting the serious responsibility and commitment that go with pet keeping, through public education and publicity programmes to disseminate messages on proper care of animals and responsible pet ownership;
- (b) enhancing enforcement against pet owners in contravention of relevant legislation;
- (c) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to, animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in the re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
- (d) implementing a long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant AWOs and local communities.

In 2019-20, we have earmarked \$38.3 million and 195 staff for this area of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)058****(Question Serial No. 0962)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the grant of subvention to animal welfare organisations, please set out respectively the name of each animal welfare organisation with subvention granted and the amounts of subvention that they have been granted in each year from 2017-18 to 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The requested information is tabulated below:

- (a) Subvention to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) (applied for in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	100,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	45,120
5	Hong Kong Cats	18,300
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
8	Society for Abandoned Animals	42,000
	Total	494,022

(b) Subvention to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	45,000
10	Animal Friends	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	45,000
Total		570,811

* No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

(c) Subvention to AWOs (applied for and approved in 2018-19)[#]

	AWO	Amount approved (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	120,000
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	120,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	120,000
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	150,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	53,500
7	Hong Kong Cats	10,000
8	Society for Abandoned Animals	120,000
9	Kirsten's Zoo	120,000
10	Animal Friends	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	50,000
Total		1,263,500

[#] The amount of subvention will be released in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)059****(Question Serial No. 0307)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding animal euthanasia, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the actual expenditures and breakdown (e.g. the expenditures on the procurement of medical equipment, administration fees, etc.) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 financial years?
- (b) What were the numbers of animal cases handled by AFCD over the past 3 years?

Year	Stray animals caught			Animals abandoned by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals re-homed			Animals euthanised			
	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	Dogs	Cats	Others	
2016																			
2017																			
2018																			

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on catching stray animals and euthanasia of animals over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure on catching operations (\$ million)	Expenditure on euthanasia of animals (\$ million)
2016-17	28.5	0.9
2017-18	28.7	1.0
2018-19 (revised estimate)	32.1	1.3

AFCD does not have further breakdown of the above expenditure items.

- (b) The number and species of animals handled by AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated at the **Annex**.

- End -

Annex

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			Animals given up by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals re-homed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2016	1 919	876	1 494	1 003	107	56	343	70	674	637	400	1	513	136	92	1 814	449	748
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204	560	269	10	588	67	94	1 478	381	801
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904 [#]	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007 [#]

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

[#] The increased numbers were mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled due to detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)060

(Question Serial No. 1431)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2018-19, what initiatives did the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department undertake to strengthen the management of stray animals and promote animal welfare? What was the actual expenditure involved in the said work?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

In 2018-19, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) took various measures to safeguard and promote animal welfare. These include:

- (a) conducting a review on the existing legislation and overseas experience related to animal welfare, with a view to drawing up proposals for public consultation;
- (b) enhancing public education and publicity programme to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advise against the abandonment and needless surrendering of pets, and champion the need for dog licensing and rabies vaccination as well as the benefits of neutering;
- (c) implementing the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations) to regulate pet trading and breeding of dogs for sale;
- (d) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;
- (e) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;

- (f) improving the handling of reports or complaints on cruelty to animals through the inter-departmental special working group comprising representatives of the relevant government departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);
- (g) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
- (h) implementing the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities.

In 2018-19, the revised estimate for the management of stray animals and promotion of animal welfare is \$68.8 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)061

(Question Serial No. 0798)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the implementation of the New Agriculture Policy to proactively support the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture, including preparing for the establishment of the Agricultural Park and overseeing the consultancy study on designating agricultural priority areas,

- (a) Please advise on the work target in 2019-2020 and the timeframe for implementing such work.
- (b) Please set out the progress, manpower involved and estimated expenditure on preparing for the establishment of the Agricultural Park.
- (c) Please set out the manpower and estimated expenditure involved in overseeing the consultancy study on designating agricultural priority areas and provide the details of the work.
- (d) What is the number of farmers benefited under the New Agriculture Policy?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

- (a) to (c) We have been implementing the New Agriculture Policy (NAP) since 2016 to promote the modernisation and sustainable development of the local agricultural sector. We will establish an Agricultural Park (Agri-Park) in Kwu Tung South to help nurture agro-technology and knowledge on modern farm management. The Agri-Park will be developed in 2 phases. Phase 1 will be developed in a relatively small scale (about 11 hectares) with a view to enabling its partial commissioning for use by farmers as early as possible. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee (FC) in the first half of 2019, with a view to commencing the construction works in the fourth quarter of 2019.

To ensure that sufficient land will be available to meet the needs of the agricultural sector, a consultancy study is being conducted to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land as Agricultural Priority Areas, and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage owners to put currently fallow land into long-term agricultural use by crop and livestock farmers. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland in Hong Kong and studying overseas experience, before making recommendations. Given that a considerable amount of agricultural land is involved in the study, it is estimated that the study may take several years to complete.

Subject to approval of FC and the progress of subsequent project works, the construction works of the Agri-Park Phase 1 is expected to be completed in 2021. We are in parallel planning for the Agri-Park Phase 2. In 2019-20, 12 staff (in addition to their other on-going duties) and \$10.1 million have been earmarked for the above tasks in 2019-20.

- (d) About 4 300 crop and livestock farmers would benefit under NAP.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)062

(Question Serial No. 1832)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding stray cattle management measures, would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) What are the manpower and expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (the Department) for handling stray cattle in 2019-20?
- (b) What are the respective current numbers of stray cattle in each district?
- (c) I enquired about the statistics of new-born calves last year but received a reply that such statistics were not available. In this regard, how does the Department determine the success rate of feeding cattle contraceptives under the pharmacological sterilisation programme, and what are the details?
- (d) What were the numbers of stray cattle died/ethanised due to accidents or diseases over the past 3 years?
- (e) It is learnt that the land used by the Department for accommodating the cattle in need has been resumed and allocated for other purposes. Would the Government allocate other land to avoid further trimming the already-insufficient initiatives for stray cattle management?
- (f) Would the Government launch any new plan or undertake any new initiative for stray cattle?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Che-cheung (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

- (a) In 2019-20, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has earmarked \$3.6 million and 7 staff for the management of stray cattle.
- (b) According to a territory-wide population survey on stray cattle conducted in 2018, there were around 1 140 stray cattle in the rural areas of Hong Kong. The estimated number of stray cattle and their distribution are tabulated as follows:

	Estimated number of stray cattle (heads)				
	Lantau Island	Sai Kung / Ma On Shan	North East New Territories	Central New Territories	Total
Buffalo	120	0	0	40	160
Brown cattle	170	400	260	150	980
Total	290	400	260	190	1 140

- (c) AFCD has been studying the feasibility of sterilising cattle chemically with the use of a contraceptive drug called Gonacon. Effectiveness of the drug would be evaluated by checking antibody titers of treated animals and whether they are pregnant. The first phase, involving the testing of drug in captive brown cattle, was completed in 2014. The results indicated that the drug yielded a success rate of approximately 70% in rendering infertility in brown cattle without any adverse effect. Phases 2, 3 and 4 of the study involved free-roaming brown cattle and buffalo. A total of 172 brown cattle and buffalo have been involved in the study so far. Similar result as in Phase 1 was yielded for brown cattle in Phases 2 and 3. However, efficacy of Gonacon on buffaloes seems to be insignificant. The longevity and the efficacy of Gonacon on stray cattle will continue to be monitored in Phase 4.
- (d) The number of cases involving sick/injured cattle and the number of cattle euthanised due to sickness or injury over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of cases involving Injured / sick cattle [#]	Number of cattle euthanised
2016	118	51
2017	151	26
2018	250	39

[#] A case may involve more than one cattle. The same animal may be involved in more than one case.

AFCD does not have the number of cattle which died due to accidents.

- (e) No cattle management premises of AFCD have recently been resumed and allocated for other purposes.
- (f) AFCD will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach for managing stray cattle including the “Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation” programme.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)063****(Question Serial No. 1851)**

- Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
- Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
- Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
- Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)
- Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the promotion of animal welfare, would the Government advise on the following:

- (a) Please list the numbers of cats, dogs and other animals received by the Animal Management Centre (AMC) by sources of animals over the past 3 years in the table below:

Year	Caught	Handed to AMC by the owner	Seized during inspection/enforcement action	Other sources

- (b) Further to the above question, what were the respective numbers of the received animals being rehomed, euthanised and handled by other methods?
- (c) What were the numbers of prosecutions regarding abandoned animals over the past 3 years?
- (d) What were the numbers of cases received and the numbers of prosecutions regarding animal cruelty over the past 3 years?
- (e) Will the Department have any plan and action against the low prosecution rate and lenient penalties regarding animal cruelty?
- (f) The Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme for stray dogs in Yuen Long and Cheung Chau has come to an end. Will the Department launch similar trial programme or regularise the aforementioned programme? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Che-cheung (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

- (a) Information on the number of animals received by the Animal Management Centres (AMCs) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (AFCD) by source over the past 3 years is tabulated below.

Cats

Calendar year	Stray cats caught	Cats given up by owners	Cats seized during inspection / enforcement action	Cats received through other channels
2016	876	107	3	67
2017	674	84	3	62
2018	547	80	3	59

Dogs

Calendar year	Stray dogs caught	Dogs given up by owners	Dogs seized during inspection / enforcement action	Dogs received through other channels
2016	1 919	1 003	17	326
2017	1 566	1 024	61	275
2018	1 235	715	57	247

Other animals*

Calendar year	Stray animals caught	Animals given up by owners	Animals seized during inspection / enforcement action
2016	1 494	56	674
2017	1 640	39	204
2018	1 369	43	4 904 [#]

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc. No such animal is received through other channels.

[#] The increased numbers were mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

- (b) Information on the number of animals received by AMCs which have been reclaimed, euthanised and rehomed over the past 3 years is tabulated below.

Cats

Calendar year	Reclaimed	Rehomed	Euthanised
2016	400	136	449
2017	269	67	381
2018	206	89	333

Dogs

Calendar year	Reclaimed	Rehomed	Euthanised
2016	637	513	1 814
2017	560	588	1 478
2018	512	577	1 026

Other animals^{*}

Calendar year	Reclaimed	Rehomed	Euthanised
2016	1	92	748
2017	10	94	801
2018	9	87	5 007 [#]

^{*} Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

[#] The increased numbers were mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

- (c) Under Section 22 of the Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421) (the Ordinance), a keeper of any animal who abandons that animal without reasonable excuse is liable to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and to imprisonment for 6 months. In adducing evidence to substantiate a case under Section 22 of the Ordinance, it is difficult for the prosecution to prove beyond reasonable doubt that a person abandons an animal without reasonable excuse, particularly in those cases where there is no witness. To tackle cases involving dogs, the prosecution may press charges against the dog owners concerned for failing to take proper control of their dogs in public places pursuant to Section 23 of Cap. 421. The maximum penalty for contravening this provision is a fine of \$10,000.

Information on the number of convictions under Section 23 of the Ordinance over the past 3 years and the relevant penalties is tabulated below.

Calendar year	Prosecution against improper control of dogs	
	Number of convicted cases	Heaviest penalty imposed
2016	174	A fine of \$4,000
2017	192	A fine of \$2,000
2018	140	A fine of \$1,500

- (d) The number of successful prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) and the relevant penalties over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Calendar year	Number of convicted defendants	Penalties imposed	
		Fine (\$) [*]	Range of imprisonment
2016	11	5,000	28 days to 6 months
2017	24	4,000	7 days to 1 year
2018 (up to September)	12	6,000	14 days to 1 year

^{*} Only 1 case in all the 3 calendar years involved a penalty of fine only.

- (e) Upon receiving reports of suspected animal cruelty cases, the Police and / or AFCD will conduct investigations. Prosecutions will be instituted if there is sufficient evidence. The presumption of innocence is the fundamental principle of the common law system and the prosecution has the burden of proof beyond reasonable doubt that

the defendant is guilty of the offence charged. Over the years, AFCD and the Police have been working closely with animal welfare organisations to combat animal cruelty cases through intelligence gathering and investigation. The Police has set up dedicated investigation teams, comprising police officers with criminal investigation experience and skills in handling other serious crimes, in 22 police districts across the territory since April 2018. Furthermore, the Government will keep in view the level of penalty handed down by the court for the purpose of considering whether we should seek a review of the sentence in respect of the charge of “cruelty to animals”.

In addition, having reviewed overseas legislation on animal welfare, and considered views of members of the Legislative Council, animal welfare organisations and other stakeholders, we aim to launch a 3-month public consultation exercise in mid-2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare. Our key proposals will include raising the penalties for acts of cruelty to animals to increase the deterrent effect and introducing keepers’ responsibility of positive duty of care of animals. We will draw up legislative proposals after taking into account views gathered in the public consultation.

- (f) Although the 3-year trial programme has been completed, the 2 concerned animal welfare organisations (AWOs) have agreed to continue to monitor the situation, and provide us with the information on changes of the population and the average lifespan of these dogs in the coming years.

While the trial programme did not achieve the predetermined performance targets, AFCD keeps an open mind towards rendering assistance to AWOs in conducting similar programmes in other specific locations. To this end, AFCD issued letters to AWOs inviting their views on sites that may be suitable for conducting the Trap-Neuter-Return programme in November 2018. The letter is also available on our thematic website (www.pets.gov.hk). We will consider a range of factors, including population density, community facilities in the vicinity, and traffic condition, in order to determine if a specific location is suitable for conducting such a programme. If a location is found suitable, AFCD will facilitate the liaison between the coordinating AWOs and the District Councils concerned as well as the local stakeholders in order to introduce the programme, with a view to enlisting their support, and seeking approval from the Legislative Council for the relevant legislative exemption.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)064

(Question Serial No. 2357)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Regarding the enforcement of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance, what were the details of work and the expenditures involved over the past 5 years and that expected in the financial year 2019-20?
- (b) Regarding the protection of animal rights, what were the details of work and the expenditures involved over the past 5 years and that expected in the financial year 2019-20?
- (c) Regarding the enactment of the Animal Welfare Act, when will the Government consult the public and submit the Bill to the Legislative Council?
- (d) Will the Government consider extending the coverage of the Animal Welfare Act to community animals?
- (e) Please set out by year the numbers of suspected animal cruelty complaints, the total number of animal cruelty cases, the numbers of cases detected, the types and numbers of animals involved in the cases, the numbers of persons arrested, the numbers of persons convicted and their respective penalties (amounts of fine and terms of imprisonment) over the past 5 years.
- (f) Apart from the enactment of the Animal Welfare Act, for the promotion of harmony between humans and animals and transformation of Hong Kong into an animal-friendly and civilised city, will the Government take a step further, from the conservation perspective instead of the perspectives of food safety and environmental hygiene in treating community animals, by transferring the animal rights and welfare issues which is under the policy area of the Food and Health Bureau to the Environment Bureau (ENB) to enable ENB to devise policies on the protection of biodiversity, conservation and sustainable development? If yes, what are the details and the timeframe involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

- (a) Upon receiving reports of suspected animal cruelty cases, the Police and / or the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will conduct investigation. Prosecution will be initiated if there is sufficient evidence.

The expenditure of AFCD involved in the above work over the past 5 years and the estimated expenditure in 2019-20 are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$million)
2014-15	2.0
2015-16	2.6
2016-17	2.9
2017-18	3.0
2018-19 (revised estimate)	3.2
2019-20 (estimate)	3.2

- (b) AFCD implements the following measures to safeguard and promote animal welfare:
- (i) conducting a review on the existing legislation and overseas experience related to animal welfare, with a view to drawing up proposals for public consultation;
 - (ii) enhancing public education and publicity programme to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advise against the abandonment and needless surrendering of pets, and champion the need for dog licensing and rabies vaccination as well as the benefits of neutering;
 - (iii) implementing the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations) to regulate pet trading and breeding of dogs for sale;
 - (iv) devising codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;
 - (v) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;
 - (vi) improving the handling of reports or complaints on cruelty to animals through the inter-departmental special working group comprising

representatives of the relevant government departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);

- (vii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
- (viii) implementing the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities.

The expenditure and manpower involved in the above work over the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2014-15	52.1	189
2015-16	50.5	194
2016-17	53.7	207
2017-18	60.3	216
2018-19 (revised estimate)	68.8	217

In 2019-20, \$66.6 million and 217 staff have been earmarked for the above work.

- (c) to (d) Having reviewed overseas legislation on animal welfare, and considered views of members of the Legislative Council, AWOs and other stakeholders, we aim to launch a 3-month public consultation exercise in mid-2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare. Our key proposals will include raising the penalties for acts of cruelty to animals and introducing keepers' responsibility of positive duty of care of animals. Details about the proposals will be available in the document for the consultation. We will draw up legislative proposals after taking into account views gathered in the public consultation.
- (e) The number of suspected animal cruelty reports received by the Police and AFCD over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of suspected animal cruelty reports
2014	237
2015	236
2016	262
2017	275
2018	368

Upon investigation, most of the cases were found to be related to nuisance with no elements of cruelty. The Government does not have the information on the types and numbers of animals involved in the cases.

The number of successful prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) (the Ordinance) and the relevant penalties over the past 5 years are as follows:

Calendar year	Number of convicted defendants	Penalties imposed	
		Fine (\$)	Range of imprisonment
2014	24	2,000 to 20,000	6 days to 16 months
2015	10	2,000*	14 days to 2 months
2016	11	5,000*	28 days to 6 months
2017	24	4,000*	7 days to 1 year
2018 (up to September)	12	6,000*	14 days to 1 year

* Only 1 case in all the 4 calendar years involved a penalty of fine only.

- (f) In Hong Kong, matters related to animal welfare, conservation and biodiversity, etc. are governed by different ordinances. The Ordinance is the primary legislation for safeguarding animal welfare, which mainly relates to prohibiting and punishing acts of cruelty to animals, and imposing a duty of animal owners or keepers. On the other hand, the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) gives effect to the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in Hong Kong, which aims to ensure that, by means of effective inter-governmental efforts among the contracting parties, international trade would not affect the sustainable use of wild fauna and flora or render them becoming endangered or extinct. Animal welfare and the maintenance of biodiversity and conservation entail different considerations, and are under the purviews of the Food and Health Bureau and the Environment Bureau respectively. Currently, there is no plan to change the above policy division.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)065

(Question Serial No. 2358)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please set out, by year, the Department's total expenditures involved in catching community animals, as well as a breakdown of all the expenditures under the grand total over the past 5 years and in the financial year 2019-20.
- (b) Please set out, by year, the Department's total expenditures involved in handling community animals, as well as a breakdown of all the expenditures under the grand total over the past 5 years and in the financial year 2019-20.
- (c) Please set out the current establishment of various ranks (including civil servants and outsourced staff) and the overall expenditures on salaries as well as the total expenditures and breakdown of all the expenditures under the grand total involved in (i) catching, (ii) rehoming and (iii) euthanising animals over the past 5 years and in the financial year 2019-20.
- (d) If the figures of all or part of the expenditures on the abovementioned items (i) to (iii) are not available, will the Department keep such figures starting from this year to enable the public to have a better understanding of the proper use of the public money involved?
- (e) What are the staff establishment and overall expenditures on salaries of the 4 Animal Management Centres (AMCs) of the Department respectively?
- (f) What are the respective types and numbers of the animals given up by owners, caught by the Department or received through other channels over the past 5 years? What are the respective types and numbers of animals reclaimed, rehomed or euthanised over the past 5 years?
- (g) Will the Department replace killing with civilised practices by abolishing euthanasia?

- (h) Will the Department reallocate all the expenditure for carrying out euthanasia to opening the 4 AMCs for animal rehoming and/or the implementation of the Trap-Neuter-Return programme? If yes, what are the details of the scheme and the timeframe? If not, please provide specific justifications for such issue.
- (i) Will the Government request for additional provision in order to set up animal rehoming centres for promotion of rehoming instead of euthanasia?
- (j) Will the Government consider implementing the Trap-Neuter-Return programme in various districts of Hong Kong, in particular rural areas, redevelopment areas and development areas, with a view to controlling the population of community animals? If yes, what are the details of the scheme and the timeframe? If not, what are the reasons?
- (k) Will the Government consider setting up an inter-departmental dedicated team to devise long-term policy to protect all the rights of affected animals within the existing development areas (districts such as the North Eastern New Territories and Wang Chau) and the future development areas (districts such as the New Territories North, Yuen Long South and Kam Tin South), including assessing the impacts of development on community animals within the district and its surroundings, conducting a comprehensive survey of the animals within the district and devising animal rehoming plan etc. when formulating development plan?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

- (a) to (e) The expenditure and manpower of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) involved in catching stray animals and handling stray animals caught over the past 5 years and earmarked for 2019-20 are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)			Manpower (number of staff)
	Catching stray animals	Handling stray animals caught Total (Breakdown for euthanasia of animals)	Total	
2014-15	28.9	3.6 (1.4)	32.5	175
2015-16	29.0	3.6 (1.4)	32.6	179
2016-17	28.5	3.4 (0.9)	31.9	187
2017-18	28.7	3.6 (1.0)	32.3	187
2018-19 (revised estimate)	32.1	4.0 (1.3)	36.1	188
2019-20 (estimate)	32.1	4.0 (1.3)	36.1	188

Since rehoming of animals is an integral part of AFCD's work on stray animal management, there is no separate breakdown of the expenditure involved.

The Animal Management Centres (AMCs) of AFCD are responsible for, among other duties, handling stray animals, including catching, rehoming and euthanising animals as necessary. The staff establishment of the 4 AMCs is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Manpower in the 4 AMCs*		
	Veterinary Officer	Technical / Frontline staff	Outsourced staff
2018-19	4	184	25

*The 4 AMCs are overseen by 1 Senior Veterinary Officer.

The 2018-19 revised estimate on the staff cost for the 4 AMCs is \$69.3 million.

- (f) The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.
- (g) to (i) Stray animals caught will be put in AMCs for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days to allow time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary officer as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, AFCD will arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for adoption by members of the public as far as possible.

On the other hand, some animals received by AMCs may be unsuitable for rehoming due to various reasons, including the risk of carrying zoonotic diseases, health or temperamental reasons. Even for healthy animals, keeping in captivity without rehoming for prolonged period is not in their best interest from the perspective of animal welfare. As such, euthanasia remains a necessary measure for managing stray animals. A number of international animal organisations, including the World Organisation for Animal Health, agree that in situations where the number of stray dogs caught remain high or the dogs are not fit for adoption despite the deployment of various stray dog management measures, euthanasia would be an appropriate solution. Many overseas countries, such as the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, Japan and Singapore, all adopt euthanasia in handling stray animals.

Nevertheless, AFCD will continue to strengthen its efforts on management of stray animals, such as the promotion of responsible pet ownership and animals rehoming as well as taking enforcement action against abandonment of animals by irresponsible owners, with a view to reducing the number of stray animals that need to be euthanised. Please also see (k) below regarding animal rehoming centres.

- (j) The 3-year Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme for stray dogs conducted at the 2 trial sites in Cheung Chau and Yuen Long by 2 AWOs since early 2015 was completed in January 2018. While the trial programme did not achieve the predetermined performance targets, AFCD keeps an open mind towards rendering assistance to AWOs in conducting similar programmes in other specific locations. To this end, AFCD issued letters to AWOs inviting their views on sites that may be suitable for conducting the TNR programme in November 2018. The letter is also available on our thematic website (www.pets.gov.hk). We will consider a range of factors, including population density, community facilities in the vicinity, and traffic condition, in order to determine if a specific location is suitable for conducting such a programme. If a location is found suitable, AFCD will facilitate the liaison between the coordinating AWOs and the District Councils concerned as well as the local stakeholders in order to introduce the programme, with a view to enlisting their support, and seeking approval from the Legislative Council for the relevant legislative exemption.
- (k) AFCD has been working closely with the relevant government departments to promote and appeal to residents affected by government development projects to make appropriate arrangements for their pets as early as practicable (such as transferring their pets to relatives or friends). Animal owners are also advised to approach AFCD for assistance in a timely manner so as to enable the department and AWOs to make early preparation for receiving their animals. AFCD will also proactively liaise with AWOs to try and arrange them to accommodate animals affected by the development projects and strengthen the work in animal neutering and adoption in the affected areas. Starting from 2019-20, AFCD's resources for subventing AWOs' work, including that of rehoming, will be increased. AFCD will provide assistance to AWOs which are interested in operating animal re-homing centres for animals affected by development projects. AWOs in need of premises running re-homing centres may consider the suitability of vacant government sites under the management of the Lands Department that are available for leasing by non-governmental organisations for community purposes on short-term basis. Non-profit making AWOs may also apply from a funding scheme run by the Development Bureau for subsidies to carry out one-off, basic and necessary restoration works so as to put the vacant government sites fit-for-use as re-homing centres. At the moment, the Government does not see the need for setting up an inter-departmental dedicated team to take forward the above tasks.

- End -

Annex

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			Animals given up by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals re-homed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2014	3 676	1 836	1 374	1 464	132	28	809	78	656	1 235	576	253	679	212	75	3 868	1 039	1 594
2015	2 412	1 359	1 418	1 284	129	109	378	73	3 590	774	626	11	651	168	83	2 421	696	3 469
2016	1 919	876	1 494	1 003	107	56	343	70	674	637	400	1	513	136	92	1 814	449	748
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204	560	269	10	588	67	94	1 478	381	801
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904 [#]	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007 [#]

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

[#] The increased numbers were mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)066

(Question Serial No. 2359)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) What are the types and numbers of the existing animal traps kept by the Department? What is the total expenditure of procuring such animal traps?
- (b) It was mentioned in a reply letter from the Department to me that “the Department will carry out follow-up investigations as soon as complaints about nuisance caused by stray animals are received from the public”. There are many community animals in various districts in Hong Kong. It is a waste of public funds if the Department deploys staff to capture those animals once it receives complaints from the public without clarifying the situations. Would the Government advise on the following:
- (i) How is the “nuisance caused by stray animals” defined?
 - (ii) What are the specific procedures of the “follow-up investigations”? Will the genuineness and sources of the complaints be verified?
 - (iii) What are the conditions and criteria for the complaints to be substantiated and staff to be deployed to capture the animals?
 - (iv) How are the animals captured confirmed to be the community animals which have been complained to be causing “nuisance”?
 - (v) Has the Department provided guidelines, codes of practice or any other documents regarding capturing of community animals to the officers responsible for the capture operations for their reference? If yes, please provide the full text(s) of the relevant document(s). If not, would the Department consider compiling such a code of practice?
 - (vi) Have the staff capturing the animals received relevant training to prevent the animals from being injured during the capture operations?

- (c) It has been mentioned in the replies regarding the safety issues of animal traps from the Department over the years that all traps used by the Department have been specially designed or carefully selected and do not harm the animals. However, facts have proven otherwise. Taking the incident of the Department’s staff capturing a dog on the Lion Rock on 16 February this year, which has aroused grave concern from the public, as an example, the left front limb of the dog was apparently injured after being captured by the staff with an animal trap, as seen in a video clip on the internet. It was limping and was unable to stand firm. Making reference to overseas experiences, dog rescuers often use only long ropes instead of animal traps to capture dogs in order to avoid injuring them. Would the Department consider ceasing the use of animal traps to avoid causing unnecessary harm to animals?
- (d) What were the respective types and numbers of animals captured due to “nuisance caused by stray animals” out of the community animals captured by the Department over the past 5 years? What are the ratios of such numbers to the total numbers of community animals captured by the Department in the respective years?
- (e) Apart from “nuisance caused by stray animals”, has the Department deployed staff to capture community animals for other reasons? If yes, please set out the types and numbers of animals captured for such reasons over each of the past 5 years as well as the ratios of such numbers to the total numbers of community animals captured by the Department in the respective years.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on purchasing and maintaining animal traps over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2014-15	0.32
2015-16	0.08
2016-17	0.07
2017-18	0.02
2018-19 (revised estimate)	0.03

At present, AFCD has a total of 188 cage traps for catching dogs and cats, 56 snares for catching dogs, 40 cage traps for catching feral pigeons, 12 snares and 54 cage traps for catching monkeys, and 4 cage traps for catching wild pigs^{Note}.

Note: The management of wild animals fall under the policy purview of the Environment Bureau.

- (b) Animal owners should take proper care of their animals and should not allow the animals to roam around public places at large without control. Nuisance caused by stray animals may include environmental hygiene problems, noise as well as threats to public safety and public health such as biting and attacking humans, which may in turn lead to spreading of rabies and other zoonotic diseases. Therefore, it is necessary to handle complaints about nuisance caused by stray animals promptly and effectively.

In general, upon receipt of complaints or reports from members of the public regarding nuisance caused by stray animals (mostly dogs and cats), AFCD will conduct inspections to the areas concerned to investigate if there are any stray animals causing nuisance and take follow-up actions including catching operations.

AFCD staff responsible for catching stray animals are all trained for using different types of animal catching tools and handling the animals caught. The operational guidelines that the staff should follow are summarised at the **Annex**.

- (c) All the animal traps including snares and cage traps used by AFCD are specially designed or carefully selected to ensure that they are safe to use on animals. They are widely recognised and used in other countries for catching stray animals. In addition, all the catching operations using animal traps are carried out by trained staff who will take necessary precautionary measures to prevent animals from injury during the process. For instance, when snares are used for catching stray animals, notices at conspicuous places will be put up and the affected area will be fenced off with warning tapes. AFCD staff will ensure that no passers-by or other animals will come close. Once a stray animal is caught, it will be transferred to a cage with the snare immediately loosened, and delivered to an Animal Management Centre (AMC) for observation and follow-up actions.

During the catching operation conducted by AFCD on the Lion Rock on 16 February 2019, it was necessary to use snares to lure and catch stray dogs as the site involved a vast area and the landform did not allow the use of catching poles. A stray dog was caught by a snare deployed. Upon examination of the dog after delivery to AMC, no injury to the dog due to its capture by the snare was found.

AFCD has no plan to stop using snares for catching stray animals.

- (d) and (e) Most of the stray animals are caught in relation to nuisance complaints. The types and number of stray animals caught over the past 5 years are tabulated below.

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Total
2014	3 676	1 836	1 374	6 886

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Total
2015	2 412	1 359	1 418	5 189
2016	1 919	876	1 494	4 289
2017	1 566	674	1 640	3 880
2018	1 235	547	1 369	3 151

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), cattle, reptiles and birds, etc.

- End -

Guidelines on Handling and Catching Stray Animals (Summary)

Staff safety always comes first. Pay attention to the surrounding environment, for example: the appearance along the road, any highway or hill slope nearby, etc. Do not catch the animal if it is wandering in a place which is inaccessible or may pose danger to staff safety. Remind staff to wear reflective vest where necessary.

Choose appropriate catching tools and protective gears

- (a) bamboo pole with rattan loop (dog catching pole)
- (b) net (for puppies / cats)
- (c) snare

Before setting off, the team leader must ensure that adequate manpower be made available to provide assistance and support. The equipment must be checked for defects or malfunctions.

Catch the animal with the necessary equipment in a humane manner. Once caught, the animal shall be put into the cage and transported back to the Animal Management Centre. Veterinary officer must be informed of any ill or injured animal situation.

Under exceptional circumstances, for example, if the cage is inaccessible to the place where the animal was caught, staff may use the dog catching pole to lead the animal to the cage. However, dragging of the animal shall be avoided.

If interference were encountered during the operation, immediate advice to relevant persons should be given. Police assistance should be sought if necessary.

Any missing equipment must be recorded, and promptly investigated and reported to supervisors.

Inform the Duty Officer or supervisors if there was any issue requiring special concern or follow up which happened during the catching operation.

Each operation must be carried out under a team leader who must ensure compliance. The team leader should seek supervisor's advice when in doubt.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)067

(Question Serial No. 2361)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please set out, by year, the Department's total expenditures involved in dealing with community cattle, as well as a breakdown of all the expenditures under the grand total over the past 5 years and in the financial year 2019-20.
- (b) Please set out the current establishment of various ranks in the Cattle Management Team, and provide, by year, an exhaustive breakdown of all of the Department's expenditures involved in the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" programme (the programme), including expenditures involved in handling public complaints, the purchase of medicines, capturing stray cattle, conception control/sterilisation for stray cattle, relocation operation, total staff cost, and administrative expenses, etc. over the past 5 years and in the financial year 2019-20.
- (c) Please set out, by year and with an exhaustive account, the breakdown statistics related to the programme, including the numbers of complaints/reports related to cattle, numbers of operations, numbers of cattle caught and the districts where they were caught, numbers of cattle that have received contraceptive vaccines, numbers of sterilised cattle, numbers of relocated cattle, numbers of injured/sick cattle, and numbers of euthanised cattle over the past 5 years.
- (d) What are the latest estimated numbers of community cattle and buffaloes in each district?
- (e) How would the Department evaluate on the effectiveness of the programme?
- (f) Please set out, by year and district, the frequencies for the Department to deploy staff to the relocated site for site visit and monitoring the health condition of cattle over the past 5 years.

- (g) The Department indicated that they would collaborate with the animal welfare organisations and local communities to implement the long-term strategy of community cattle management. What are the details of the strategy and estimated expenditures involved?
- (h) It is mentioned under the “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20” that strengthening the measures for stray animals management would be one of the major initiatives that the Department would focus on in the coming year. What are the details of the measures and the estimated expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) The expenditure and manpower involved in stray cattle management (including the “Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation” (CSR programme)) over the past 5 years and the estimated expenditure and manpower for such work in 2019-20 are tabulated below.

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2014-15	6.7	8
2015-16	3.0	6
2016-17	3.2	6
2017-18	3.5	7
2018-19 (revised estimate)	6.2	7
2019-20 (estimate)	3.6	7

Currently, the Cattle Management Team (CMT) under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has an establishment of 7 posts comprising 1 Veterinary Officer, 2 Field Officer II, 3 Field Assistant, and 1 Motor Driver posts.

The expenditure on the CSR programme over the past 5 years and the estimated expenditure in 2019-20 are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2014-15	4.7
2015-16	2.3
2016-17	2.4
2017-18	2.7
2018-19 (revised estimate)	3.7
2019-20 (estimate)	2.2

AFCD does not have further breakdown of the above expenditure items.

- (c) The number of cattle nuisance complaints received by district over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

District/ Calendar year	Number				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lantau Island	76	71	91	39	30
Sai Kung	12	13	11	10	9
Northeast and Central New Territories	25	19	22	14	43
Total	113	103	124	63	82

AFCD has been studying the feasibility of sterilising cattle chemically with the use of a contraceptive drug called Gonacon in parallel with the CSR programme. A total of 172 cattle have been involved in the study so far.

The number of cattle handled under the CSR programme over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Captured [^] (heads)	Sterilised (heads)	Relocated / Returned [^] (heads)
2014	94	54	60
2015	88	16	70
2016	114	64	69
2017	105	43	72
2018	128	105	80

[^] Figures include repeated capture and relocation / return of the same cattle.

The number of cattle caught by district is tabulated as follows:

District/Calendar year	Number of cattle caught				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lantau Island	43	21	33	24	27
Sai Kung	42	50	51	49	42
Northeast and Central New Territories	9	17	30	32	59
Total	94	88	114	105	128

The number of cases involving sick / injured cattle and the number of cattle euthanised due to sickness or injury over the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of cases involving injured/sick cattle [#]	Number of cattle euthanised
2014	170	49
2015	112	18
2016	118	51
2017	151	26
2018	250	39

A case may involve more than one cattle. The same animal may be involved in more than one case. AFCD does not have figures on the number of injured/sick cattle.

- (d) According to a territory-wide population survey on stray cattle conducted in 2018, there were around 1 140 stray cattle in the rural areas of Hong Kong. The estimated number of stray cattle and their distribution are tabulated as follows:

Species	Estimated number of stray cattle (heads)				
	Lantau Island	Sai Kung/ Ma On Shan	North East New Territories	Central New Territories	Total
Buffalo	120	0	0	40	160
Brown cattle	170	400	260	150	980
Total	290	400	260	190	1 140

- (e) AFCD would assess the effectiveness of the CSR programme based a number of factors, including the number of complaints against nuisance caused by stray cattle received, the number of cattle sterilised, and the number of cattle staying in the relocated sites.
- (f) Inspections of relocated stray cattle are conducted by AFCD around 3 times a week, amounting to at least 200 inspections annually for Sai Kung and Lantau Island where CSR is implemented.
- (g) and (h) AFCD will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach for managing stray cattle including the CSR programme. AFCD will continue to identify suitable sites for the relocation of cattle and engage stakeholders (including rural committees concerned and cattle concern groups) with a view to exploring how the stray cattle management measures could be strengthened in various districts. As mentioned in part (a) and (b) above, in 2019-20, AFCD has earmarked \$3.6 million for the management of stray cattle.

In 2019-20, AFCD will continue to take various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals. These include:

- (i) actively promoting the serious responsibility and commitment that go with pet keeping, through public education and publicity programmes to disseminate messages on proper care of animals and responsible pet ownership;
- (ii) enhancing enforcement against pet owners in contravention of relevant legislation;
- (iii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to, animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and

- (iv) implementing the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant AWOs and local communities.

In 2019-20, AFCD has earmarked \$38.3 million for the above area of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)068

(Question Serial No. 2365)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) The Government will increase the block vote estimate of subventions for animal welfare organisations (AWOs) under the Operating Account from \$600,000 to \$1.5 million in the financial year 2019-20. What are the reasons for increasing the said subventions? How would the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (the Department) utilise and allocate the additional block vote estimate?
- (b) The Government has been granting subventions to AWOs since 2013. Please set out by year and with an exhaustive breakdown the names of the organisations that have submitted applications to the Department, the projects and amounts of subventions applied for, the application results and the amounts of subventions granted, etc. since the inception of the scheme.
- (c) Among the AWOs having been granted subventions, is there any organisation that has been granted more than once? If yes, please set out the name(s) of the organisation(s), year(s) of application, the project(s) and amount(s) of subvention(s) applied for and the amount(s) of subvention(s) granted.
- (d) In the financial year 2019-20, the Government will allocate \$1 million for supporting the Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden to carry out a rehabilitation programme for wild animals in Hong Kong. What are the details of the programme and expenditures involved? Would the Government regularise such funding support?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been collaborating with animal welfare organisations (AWOs) to enhance animal

welfare and promote better animal management. Recognising that most AWOs are non-profit making with limited resources, the Government has since 2011 been providing subvention to these AWOs in supporting their work as long as resources permit. As the number of applications for subvention and the total amount applied continue to increase, and the subvention has been able to strengthen AWOs' capacity in animal welfare work, after reviewing the needs of AWOs and the resources implications, we have increased the subvention with effect from 2019-20 with a view to enhancing our support to AWOs. The increased subvention amount will apply to projects approved in 2018-19, with disbursements to be made in 2019-20.

The eligibility criteria for application for subvention remain unchanged and are set out in **Annex 1**. Only applicants that fulfil the criteria and with applications that are project-based and directly related to the promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management will be considered by AFCD. When vetting applications, AFCD will assess –

- (i) the objective(s) and expected result(s) of the proposed project;
 - (ii) cost-effectiveness of the project; and
 - (iii) the reasonableness of the proposed expenditure.
- (b) & (c) Details of projects under application as well as the amounts of subvention applied for and given to different AWOs over the past 5 years are set out in **Annex 2**. Information on the organisations receiving subvention more than once over the past 5 years is in **Annex 3**.
- (d) The Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden (KFBG) has been assisting the Government in rescuing and rehabilitating wild animals in Hong Kong. As these activities are conducive to the conservation of wild animals, starting from 2019-20, the Government will earmark \$1 million each year for KFBG to apply for funding to support part of the operating expenses of its wild animal rehabilitation programmes. AFCD will invite KGBG to submit an application and liaise with them with a view to formulating funding terms and performance indicators for the wild animal rehabilitation programmes to ensure the proper use of public funds.

- End -

Eligibility criteria for application for subvention

- (1) The organisation must be:
 - (i) a society as defined by section 2(1) of the Societies Ordinance (Cap. 151) and registered under section 5A(1) of that Ordinance;
 - (ii) a company registered under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) (or Cap. 32 as in force at the time of the registration); or
 - (iii) a body of persons, or charity, as defined by section 2(1) of the Registered Trustees Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 306) which has been granted a certificate of incorporation under section 4(1) of that Ordinance.
- (2) The organisation must also be a charitable institution or trust of a public character that is exempt from tax under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) (re-homing partners of AFCD who did not have charitable status when joining the scheme prior to March 2017 are exempted from this requirement).
- (3) The core services and activities of the organisation must be related to promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management and it must be actively engaged in such services/activities over the past 3 years or more (re-homing partners of AFCD are exempted from the 3-year requirement).
- (4) The organisation must be well-managed and properly constituted with good record keeping and accounting systems.
- (5) Organisations charging an adoption or re-homing fee must possess an exemption from holding an animal trader licence under section 5A of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B). For re-homing partners without charitable status, at least one individual acting on behalf of the organisation must possess the individual exemption.

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2014-15 and released in 2015-16)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought (\$)	Amount approved (\$)	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To operate an adoption centre and conduct animal welfare projects	160,000	90,000	76,679
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To conduct an adult dog rehome scheme	224,000	150,000	150,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To purchase medications and feeds for rehoming animals and conduct publicity and education programmes	1,808,000	120,000	120,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To conduct education programmes and provide medical treatment for rabbits	135,000	49,000	48,181
5	Hong Kong Rescue Puppies	To produce a publicity booklet entitled "Responsible Pet Ownership" and conduct a rehome scheme	185,232	40,000	0*
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To conduct various animal management programmes	227,000	45,000	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To conduct education, publicity, rescue and adoption programmes	80,000	30,000	30,000
Total			2,819,232	524,000	469,860

* No claim for reimbursement from the AWO concerned has been received.

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2015-16 and released in 2016-17)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought (\$)	Amount approved (\$)	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To conduct adoption promotion programmes, produce educational materials and further improve the Foundation's website	180,000	80,000	73,934
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To operate an adult dog rehome scheme	204,000	125,000	125,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming animals	1,571,000	100,000	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals (SAA)	To conduct various education programmes	388,155	40,000	38,591
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick or injured rabbits	129,000	45,000	41,620
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	235,000	45,000	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct adoption promotion programmes, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation's website	54,000	24,000	16,365
9	Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) (SPCA)	To conduct an Animal Caring Ambassador Programme	200,000	45,000	44,854
Total			3,041,155	532,000	513,364

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for and approved in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought (\$)	Amount approved (\$)	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	120,000	85,000	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide vaccination and food for rehoming animals	218,400	130,000	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide preventive medical treatment for rehoming animals	1,962,000	100,000	100,000
4	SAA	To produce educational materials for promoting animal welfare and responsible pet ownership	53,040	42,000	42,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	62,000	48,000	45,120
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	320,000	46,000	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To promote adoption, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation website	40,500	21,000	18,300
9	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To catch stray dogs for neutering, vaccination and treatment	120,000	0	-
10	Conservation of Earth and Animal Association	To purchase mobile surgical equipment for veterinary treatment and provide human counselling service	3,200,000	0	-
Total			6,175,940	500,000	494,022

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for and approved in 2017-18)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought (\$)	Amount approved (\$)	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	140,000	85,000	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	324,000	130,000	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance rehoming facilities	1,629,579	82,000	82,000
4	SPCA	To promotion animal welfare on public transport	210,000	0	-
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	60,000	48,000	47,960
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	400,150	48,000	48,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	24,700	20,500	16,522
9	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To conduct education and publicity for responsible pet ownership	92,000	24,000	0*
10	Conservation of Earth and Animal Association	To conduct Animal ophthalmology project/ dental health plan/ purchase mobile medical vehicle	5,140,000	0	-
11	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	270,000	45,000	45,000
12	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	250,000	45,000	45,000
13	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	62,390	45,000	45,000
Total			8,682,819	600,500	570,811

*No claim for reimbursement from the AWO concerned has been received.

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)

	AWOs	Projects under application	Amount sought (\$)	Amount approved (\$)	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	140,000	85,000	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	324,000	130,000	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance rehoming facilities	1,629,579	82,000	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	60,000	48,000	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	400,150	48,000	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	80,000	28,000	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	24,700	20,500	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To conduct education and publicity for responsible pet ownership	92,000	24,000	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	270,000	45,000	45,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	250,000	45,000	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	62,390	45,000	45,000
Total			3,332,819	600,500	570,811

* No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

List of AWOs receiving AFCD subvention funding more than once

AWOs		Amount released in (\$)				
		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	84,339	76,679	73,934	84,602	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	150,000	150,000	125,000	130,000	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	120,000	120,000	100,000	100,000	82,000
4	SAA	-	-	38,591	42,000	--
5	SPCA	13,200	-	44,854	-	--
6	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	44,835	48,181	41,620	45,120	47,960
7	Sai Kung Stray Friends	35,000	45,000	45,000	46,000	48,000
8	Cheung Chau Animal Care	-	30,000	28,000	28,000	28,000
9	Hong Kong Cats	-	-	16,365	18,300	16,522
10	Kirsten's Zoo	-	-	-	45,000	45,000
11	Animal Friends	-	-	-	45,000	45,000
12	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	-	-	-	45,000	45,000

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)069

(Question Serial No. 2225)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned under the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20 that the Government would strengthen the promotion of animal welfare. What are the specific initiatives concerned? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 156)

Reply:

In 2019-20, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will take the following measures and initiatives to safeguard and promote animal welfare:

- (a) conducting a public consultation exercise on proposals to enhance animal welfare;
- (b) enhancing public education and publicity programme to promote responsible pet ownership and proper care of animals, advise against the abandonment and needless surrendering of pets, and champion the need for dog licensing and rabies vaccination as well as the benefits of neutering;
- (c) implementing the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B) to regulate pet trading and breeding of dogs for sale;
- (d) devising more codes of practices for the proper trading, breeding and keeping of pets and other animals;
- (e) enhancing enforcement against pet owners and traders in contravention of relevant legislation;

- (f) improving the handling of reports or complaints on cruelty to animals through the inter-departmental special working group comprising representatives of the relevant government departments and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong);
- (g) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to, animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
- (h) continuing to implement the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant AWOs and local communities.

In 2019-20, \$66.6 million and 217 staff have been earmarked for the above work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)070

(Question Serial No. 2227)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme for stray dogs by the Government in the past, would the Government advise on the following:

- (a) What was the expenditure involved and its effectiveness?
- (b) What were details of the subvented programmes run by non-profit making animal welfare organisations? What was the number of subvented programmes and the expenditure involved? What is the expected number of subvented programmes in future and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 180)

Reply:

- (a) The 3-year Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) trial programme for stray dogs conducted at the 2 trial sites in Cheung Chau and Yuen Long by 2 animal welfare organisations (AWOs) since early 2015 was completed in January 2018. The total expenditure involved from 2012-13 to 2017-18 was \$7 million. Although the 3-year trial programme has been completed, the 2 concerned AWOs have agreed to continue to monitor the number of dogs recorded for the trial programme, and provide us with the information on changes of the population and the average lifespan of these dogs in the coming years. We would make use of the data provided by the 2 AWOs for further assessment of the effectiveness of the programme.
- (b) The list of projects under application as well as the amount of subvention released / approved for release from 2015-16 / 2016-17 to 2018-19 / 2019-20 are in the **Annex**.

- End -

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2015-16 and released in 2016-17)

	AWO	Projects under application	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To conduct adoption promotion programmes, produce educational materials and further improve the Foundation's website	73,934
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To operate an adult dog rehome scheme	125,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming animals	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals (SAA)	To conduct various education programmes	38,591
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick or injured rabbits	41,620
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct adoption promotion programmes, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation's website	16,365
9	Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)	To conduct an Animal Caring Ambassador Programme	44,854
Total			513,364

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)

	AWO	Projects under application	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide vaccination and food for rehoming animals	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To provide preventive medical treatment for rehoming animals	100,000
4	SAA	To produce educational materials for promoting animal welfare and responsible pet ownership	42,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	45,120
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	To promote adoption, produce educational materials and further improve the organisation website	18,300
Total			494,022

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)

	AWO	Projects under application	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance rehoming facilities	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	To conduct education and publicity for responsible pet ownership	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	45,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	45,000
Total			570,811

*No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for and approved in 2018-19)*

	AWO	Projects under application	Amount approved (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programmes	120,000
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection	To run a “Buddy Programme” to educate children on responsible pet ownership and adoption	120,000
4	SAA	To renovate the animal centre	120,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	120,000
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	150,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	53,500
8	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	10,000
9	Kirsten’s Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	120,000
10	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	50,000
Total			1,263,500

*The amount of subvention will be released in 2019-20.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)071

(Question Serial No. 2237)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (609) Minor irrigation works in the New Territories (block vote)

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the subhead 609 "Minor irrigation works in the New Territories", would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the respective numbers of minor irrigation works in the New Territories that have been commenced or already been completed in 2018-19? Please tabulate the statistics by administrative districts.
- (b) What minor irrigation works are expected to be commenced in 2019-20? Please tabulate the information by administrative districts.

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 170)

Reply:

- (a) The minor irrigation works projects in the New Territories (NT) under the purview of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) commenced or completed in 2018-19 are tabulated below.

District	Project
Various locations in NT and Lantau Island	Provision of water pumping services for irrigation, and minor repairs and maintenance of the existing irrigation facilities.
North	(a) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Hok Tau Wai, Fanling (Part 1); (b) Re-construction / repairs / clearing of concrete channel and pavement works at Tam Shui Hang,

District	Project
	Sheung Shui; and (c) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Lau Shui Heung, Fanling.
Sha Tin and Tai Po	(a) Re-construction / repairs / clearing of concrete channel and pavement works at Fa Sam Hang, Sha Tin; and (b) Clearing the pump house chambers in pumping stations at Lam Tsuen River Pumping Station No.2 and No.4.
Yuen Long	(a) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Cheung Po Tsuen, Pat Heung; (b) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Ho Pui Tsuen, Kam Tin (Part 2); (c) Repairs and maintenance of the pump house chamber in a pumping station at Shek Wu Tong (Part 2); (d) Repairs and maintenance of the pump house chamber in a pumping station at Ngau Tam Mei (Part 2); and (e) Re-construction of concrete pavement works at Tai Tong Shan Road Pump House, Yuen Long.
Tuen Mun	(a) Replacement of an old damaged irrigation pipeline at Lo Fu Hang Tsuen, Tuen Mun (Part 1).
Lantau Island	(a) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Tai O; and (b) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Sham Wat.

- (b) The minor irrigation works projects in NT under the purview of AFCD planned to be commenced in 2019-20 are tabulated below.

District	Project
Various locations in NT and Lantau Island	Provision of water pumping services for irrigation, and minor repairs and maintenance of the existing irrigation facilities.

District	Project
North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Tam Shui Hang, Sheung Shui; (b) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Hok Tau Wai, Fanling (Part 2) ; and (c) Repairs of the aged Rubber Dam at Beas River, Fanling.
Sha Tin and Tai Po	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Clearing the pump house chambers in pumping stations at Lam Tsuen River Pumping Station No.1 and No.3; and (b) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Fung Yuen, Tai Po.
Yuen Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Re-construction / repairs / clearing of concrete channel and pavement works at Yuen Kong Tsuen, Kam Tin; (b) Repairs of the Concrete Weir at Wong Nai Tun Tsuen; (c) Repairs of damaged Rubber Dam at Kat Hing Wai, Kam Tin; (d) Repairs and maintenance of the pump house chamber in pumping station at Shek Wu Tong (Part 3); and (e) Repairs and maintenance of the pump house chamber in pumping station at Ngau Tam Mei (Part 3).
Tuen Mun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Replacement of an old damaged irrigation pipeline at Lo Fu Hang Tsuen, Tuen Mun (Part 2); and (b) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Ha Pak Nai.
Lantau Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Repairs of the aged irrigation pipeline at Shap Long, Chi Ma Wan Road; and (b) Addition of an irrigation pipeline to connect a weir to the existing irrigation system at Tai Long Wan Tsuen.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)072

(Question Serial No. 0121)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the “control of destructive fishing practices”, would the Government please advise on the following:

Has any enforcement action been taken over the past 3 years? If yes, what were the numbers of operations conducted, manpower involved and results achieved respectively each year? If not, what are the reasons?

Has any joint operation been conducted with the relevant authorities of neighbouring regions? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Has any person been arrested? If yes, which regions do these persons come from? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Marine Police conduct regular and targeted patrols and joint enforcement operations against illegal fishing activities (including destructive fishing practices) in Hong Kong waters.

AFCD also engages in joint enforcement operations and exchanges intelligence with the Guangdong Provincial Marine and Fisheries Inspection Bureau to combat illegal fishing activities along the boundary waters. If Mainland fishing vessels are found illegally fishing in Hong Kong waters but cannot be successfully intercepted within these waters, AFCD will, having regard to the circumstances, refer the cases to Mainland law enforcement agencies for follow-up.

Information on enforcement over the past 3 years concerning destructive fishing practices is tabulated below.

Calendar year	2016	2017	2018
Number of enforcement operations for combating illegal fishing*	1 540	1 629	1 612
Manpower of AFCD involved in combating illegal fishing* (number of staff)	18	18	18
Number of successful prosecutions against destructive fishing practices	3	1	5
Number of persons prosecuted for engaging in destructive fishing practices[^]	9 (5 local and 4 Mainland)	5 (Mainland)	20 (Mainland)
Range of penalties	A fine up to \$100,000; imprisonment for 2 months	Imprisonment for 2 months	A fine of \$4,000; Imprisonment for 2 weeks to 2 months

* Enforcement operations are meant to combat illegal fishing activities, including but not limited to those against destructive fishing practices.

[^] All prosecuted persons were convicted.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)073

(Question Serial No. 0131)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the public consultation on the review of the existing legislation related to animal welfare to be conducted, please set out the main scope and timetable for its completion.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

Having reviewed overseas legislation on animal welfare, and considered views of members of the Legislative Council, animal welfare organisations and other stakeholders, we aim to launch a 3-month public consultation exercise in mid-2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare. Our key proposals will include raising the penalties for acts of cruelty to animals and introducing keepers' responsibility of positive duty of care of animals. Details about the proposals will be available in the document for the consultation. We will draw up legislative proposals after taking into account views gathered in the public consultation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)074

(Question Serial No. 2813)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In view of the increasingly rampant illegal fishing activities of non-local fishing vessels in Hong Kong waters, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department manages the fishing activities within the Fisheries Protection Areas in Hong Kong according to the Fisheries Protection Ordinance. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) It is noted that a dedicated law enforcement unit within the AFCD is responsible for combating illegal fishing. Please set out the staffing structure and the expenditure involved, as well as the number of vessels owned. Are outsourced vessels deployed to conduct patrols? What are the details?
- (b) Does the Department provide sufficient professional training on maritime law enforcement and lifesaving for the abovementioned law enforcement unit? Which party is responsible for the training?
- (c) Over the past 3 years, what were the numbers of regular patrols conducted by the abovementioned law enforcement unit and the main patrol areas involved? What were the numbers of joint operations conducted with the marine police? What were the numbers of arrested persons who resisted by force?
- (d) Over the past 3 years, what were the numbers of suspected cases of illegal fishing of Mainland fishing vessels in Hong Kong handled by various law enforcement departments, the numbers of cases involving Mainland fishermen prosecuted and convicted due to illegal fishing respectively each year? What was the modus operandi of illegal fishing activities?
- (e) Given the vast Hong Kong waters, will the Department consider increasing the manpower, enhancing the professional training and imposing heavier penalties with a

view to curbing the illegal fishing activities of Mainland fishermen and protecting the ecology of Hong Kong waters?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

- (a) In 2018-19, the expenditure and manpower involved in the enforcement against illegal fishing activities were \$13.0 million (revised estimate) and 18 staff respectively. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) currently deploys 3 vessels including 2 outsourced vessels for regular and targeted patrols against illegal fishing activities at random hours (including at nights and early mornings). AFCD's staff, when discharging duties on other vessels, will also stay vigilant to any illegal fishing activities, and inform AFCD's enforcement unit and Marine Police for follow up.
- (b) AFCD has been collaborating with the Hong Kong Police Force to provide professional training on enforcement for frontline staff regularly. Staff are also trained on occupational safety at sea through the Maritime Services Training Institute and the Hong Kong Seamen's Union.
- (c) Information on AFCD's patrols and joint operations with Marine Police over the past 3 years is tabulated below.

Calendar year	Number of patrols conducted by AFCD	Number of joint operations with Marine Police
2016	1 540	60
2017	1 630	58
2018	1 610	74

The patrols focused on blackspots of illegal fishing activities such as Soko Islands and waters south of Cheung Chau. There was no arrest case involving resistance by force.

- (d) Information on illegal fishing involving Mainland vessels and fishermen over the past 3 years is tabulated below.

Calendar year	Number of cases of illegal fishing involving Mainland vessels*	Respective number of Mainland fishermen prosecuted and convicted[#]
2016	3	5
2017	1	5
2018	7	27

* Cases involving Mainland vessels intercepted by AFCD and Marine Police.

[#] All prosecuted persons were convicted.

The illegal fishing activities by Mainland vessels included trawling, cage trapping and hookah fishing. If Mainland fishing vessels are found illegally fishing in Hong Kong waters but cannot be successfully intercepted within these waters, AFCD will, having regard to the circumstances, refer the cases to Mainland law enforcement agencies for follow-up.

- (e) Under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171), any person who conducts illegal fishing activities is liable to a maximum fine of \$200,000 and imprisonment for 6 months upon conviction. We consider that the existing statutory provisions are already effective in combating the illegal entry of Mainland fishing vessels into Hong Kong waters for fishing activities, and that the penalties imposed by the court, including fines and imprisonment, have deterrent effect. AFCD will continue to enhance enforcement, exchange information and intelligence with the relevant government departments and Mainland authorities, adjust its enforcement strategy from time to time in the light of circumstances and intelligence gathered, and collaborate with the relevant parties to combat illegal fishing activities. To enhance the effectiveness of the enforcement action, AFCD will explore the application of technology in its enforcement work, such as using real time satellite information to help identify fishing vessels.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)075

(Question Serial No. 2818)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B) has come into force since 2017. Could the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) The number of staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (the Department) responsible for issuing licences and implementing regulation on private breeders. What are the specific details of the work and respective salaries of the staff in this regard?
- (b) The latest numbers of applicants and various licences issued under Cap. 139B.
- (c) The numbers of complaints received monthly in relation to illegal breeding establishments and those breeding establishments that failed to meet the requirements.
- (d) The numbers of inspections conducted by the Department at various breeding establishments with different licences.
- (e) The numbers of decoy operations conducted by the Department on the internet and on-site at the breeding establishments, as well as the number of prosecutions instituted.
- (f) The numbers of breeding establishments that were successfully prosecuted and convicted, as well as their respective penalties.
- (g) Please set out the respective numbers of new applications for dog licences over the past 2 years by the following categories:
 - (i) dogs bred by licenced dog breeding establishments;
 - (ii) legally imported dogs;
 - (iii) dogs naturally bred and rehomed;
 - (iv) other sources.

- (h) According to the past statistics, the total number of applications for dog licences far outnumbered that of (i) the number of dogs bred by licenced dog breeding establishments and (ii) the number of legally imported dogs. How would the Department interpret these statistics?
- (i) Has the Department worked closely with the Customs and Excise Department to investigate into cases of illegal smuggling of animals? What were the numbers of arrests and seizures over the past 3 years? What were the Department's manpower and establishment for investigating into the animal smuggling cases?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

- (a) In 2018-19, 30 staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) were responsible for administering the licensing regime under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B) (the Regulations). Major areas of work include:
- (i) processing applications for licences which involve verification of information provided by applicants, inspecting the proposed premises concerned to ensure the facilities therein are in compliance with the required standards, and collecting relevant information for assessing the suitability of the applicants to hold the licence;
 - (ii) inspecting licensed animal trading and dog breeding premises to ensure compliance with the licensing requirements;
 - (iii) collecting samples from breeding dogs and offspring for DNA testing to verify the parentage and the source of dogs; and
 - (iv) carrying out investigations upon complaints or irregularities detected.

The rank and salary on the Government's Master Pay Scale (MPS) of officers carrying out the above duties are as follows: Veterinary Officer (MPS 31-44), Senior Field Officer (MPS 29-33), Field Officer I (MPS 22-28), and Field Officer II (MPS 8-21).

- (b) The number of applications for Animal Trader Licences (ATLs), Dog Breeder Licences (DBLs) and one-off permits received and approved since the Regulations came into effect on 20 March 2017 and up to end February 2019 is as follows:

Licence/Permit	Number of applications			
	Received	Approved	Under processing	Withdrawn / Rejected
ATL	706	632	24	50

Licence/Permit	Number of applications			
	Received	Approved	Under processing	Withdrawn / Rejected
DBL (category A)	38	24	4	10
DBL (category B)	59	38	12	9
One-off permit	7	4	0	3

(c) to (f) The information requested between March 2017 and end February 2019 is tabulated below:

Number of complaints received	66
Number of inspections (including routine ones and surprise checks) conducted	749
Number of decoy operations conducted on the internet	25
Number of physical decoy and enforcement operations	11
Number of convicted cases*	10

*The cases involved selling of dogs without a permit. There was no convicted cases related to breeding establishments.

(g) and (h) The number of new dog licences issued in 2017 and 2018 by their sources is tabulated below:

Source of the dogs	Number of new dog licences issued	
	2017	2018
Dog breeding establishments and dog trading premises	2 947	2 062
Legally imported	3 663	2 564
Handled by government departments such as dogs rehomed under AFCD's rehome scheme through AFCD's partner animal welfare organisations (AWOs), service dogs of government departments, etc.	971	811
Other sources	9 465	8 955
Total	17 046	14 392

“Other sources” mainly include puppies born of privately owned pet dogs and some stray dogs handled by AWOs and individuals. It is estimated that there are over 30 000 privately owned female dogs which are not desexed.

(i) AFCD works closely with the Customs and Exercise Department to deter illegal import of live animals and birds through sharing of intelligence and conducting joint operations and investigation. Investigation of suspected illegal import of live animals and birds is part of the duties of AFCD's Airport and Boundary Control Team which comprises a total of 92 posts headed by a Veterinary Officer. There is no separate breakdown of manpower involved in investigation of illegal import of live animals and birds.

The number of illegally imported live animals and birds seized by AFCD over the past 3 years is as follows:

Calendar year	Dogs and cats	Other mammals	Birds	Pet reptiles	Food poultry	Food reptiles (kg)*
2016	22	1	5	1 696	22	27
2017	27	417	3	3 205	1	3
2018	7	3	533	4 258	0	0

*Weight instead of number of the animals was recorded.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)076

(Question Serial No. 1929)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The estimated amount of throughput at Vegetable Marketing Organization in 2019 is lower than the actual amount of throughput in 2017 and 2018. What are the reasons? Has the Government formulate any initiative to boost the throughput?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

The estimated amount of throughput of vegetables marketed through the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) in 2019 is expected to decrease mainly due to keen competition from direct marketing of vegetables without going through the wholesale market.

In response to the highly competitive market, VMO is striving to improve its services to retain business. It has been working with wholesalers and other stakeholders to develop branding for products traded through its market, reengineer its services to meet the needs of wholesalers and customers, optimise its various trading facilities, and expand its product range.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)077

(Question Serial No. 1930)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) What are the specific measures to assist farmers in capturing high-value market niches?
- (b) Regarding the offering of free training on sustainable fisheries operations, what are the respective numbers of fishermen who have received and will receive the training between 2018 and 2020? What are the expenditures involved?
- (c) Regarding the assistance provided to fishermen in switching to sustainable fisheries operations, what are the respective numbers of fishermen who have switched or will switch to work in this industry between 2018 and 2020?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) provides support services to assist local farmers in capturing high-value market niches, through developing new farming techniques to raise productivity, introducing new and improved crop varieties for local cultivation, and assisting in the setting up of farmers' markets for farmers to reach out to customers. AFCD cooperates with the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO), the local farming sector and other voluntary organisations to organise the annual Farmfest to promote local produce to the general public. AFCD has also jointly developed with VMO a mobile application "Local Fresh" to facilitate consumers to purchase local produce more conveniently through mobile platforms.

Furthermore, the \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund supports projects that may benefit the local agricultural community as a whole, including projects that would help farmers move up the value chain.

- (b) AFCD provides free training to help fishermen acquire technical skills and knowledge on sustainable operations, e.g. on aquaculture hatchery, recreational fishing, etc. The number of fishermen and the expenditure involved are tabulated below:

Financial year	Number of fishermen	Expenditure (\$million)
2017-18	340	2.6
2018-19 (revised estimate)	340	3.5
2019-20 (estimate)	350	3.7

- (c) AFCD has been assisting fishermen in switching to sustainable fisheries operations through the provision of training, and technical and financial support. It is up to individual fishermen to decide whether they would switch to other modes of operation. AFCD does not maintain statistics on the number of the fishermen who have switched to sustainable fisheries operations.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)078

(Question Serial No. 1931)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the enhancement of surveillance on antimicrobial resistance and diseases in food animals in local farms, please advise on the details. What are the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) makes continued efforts to prevent and control the outbreak of animal and zoonotic diseases in local chicken and pig farms through (i) conducting regular inspections of local farms to ensure that the farmers comply with the biosecurity, farm hygiene and other related requirements, including proper vaccination of poultry against avian influenza, and taking enforcement action against non-compliant cases; (ii) providing technical advice and assistance to farmers on proper farm management, prevention and control of animal diseases; and (iii) organising education seminars on farm management and disease prevention for local farmers and their workers. AFCD also promotes good aquaculture practices to enhance fish farm management and implements a fish health management programme.

On antimicrobial resistance (AMR), AFCD has commissioned a consultancy study since October 2017 to devise a surveillance programme to monitor antimicrobial usage as well as the prevalence of bacteria with AMR in local food animal farms including livestock and fish farms. The consultancy study will be completed by mid-2019 and the recommended surveillance programme will be launched later this year.

Furthermore, 3 projects have been approved under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund for providing veterinary services to local pig farms, local chicken farms and local fish farms. These projects involve formulation of tailor-made farm-specific disease management plans for the

purposes of disease prevention and promoting responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials, and assisting farmers in sourcing vaccines and other veterinary medications.

The resources earmarked for the above area of work in 2019-20 are \$78.4 million and 74 staff, of which \$24.4 million and 11 staff are for the work on AMR.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)079

(Question Serial No. 1948)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) The Government has mentioned that it would follow up the legislative amendment exercise to facilitate the relocation of chicken farms and improvement of their biosecurity measures. Please advise on the number of chicken farms to be relocated in 2019-20, the relocation sites and the details in the regard.
- (b) What are the details of the measures for improving the farms' biosecurity?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

- (a) We are preparing the legislative amendments enabling the relocation of local chicken farms which we aim to put to the Legislative Council for negative vetting later this year. We do not have information on the number of these farms which may seek to be relocated in 2019-20.
- (b) Biosecurity improvement measures which may be implemented in local chicken farms to enhance farm hygiene and to prevent and control the outbreak of animal and zoonotic diseases include the installation of disinfection wheel baths, modernised and well ventilated chicken sheds, bird proofing facilities, modernised manure discharge systems, and implementation of "all in, all out"* mode of production, etc.

* Use of "all in, all out" system in poultry farm has been advocated by a variety of international organisations as a major component of an effective biosecurity plan. One of the major advantages is that emptying chickens from a shed (all out) at regular intervals could allow facilities to be cleaned thoroughly before the next batch of chickens is admitted (all in), thereby reducing the level of pathogen contamination.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)080

(Question Serial No. 2057)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's management of stray animals:

- (a) How many complaints in relation to stray animals, by District Council constituency areas, have been received by the Department in 2018-19? What were the types of animals involved and the numbers of animals caught? In addition, what were respective types and numbers of animals caught by the Department in its routine operations? How are the relevant numbers expected to vary in 2019-20?
- (b) How does the Department handle the animals caught in general? What are the types and numbers of animals temporarily kept by the Department respectively? What are the manpower and expenditures involved as well as the average and longest keeping periods of such animals?
- (c) What new measures does the Department plan to implement in 2019-20 to strengthen the management of stray animals? What are the details, manpower and expenditures involved in the various measures respectively?
- (d) Has the Department assessed the types and numbers of stray animals in the North East New Territories New Development Areas (NDAs)? If yes, what are the findings? If not, what are the reasons? Will assessments be conducted in the future?
- (e) With regard to the handling of stray animals in the North East New Territories NDAs, will the Department earmark resources for examining the issue concerned? If yes, what are the specific details? If not, what are the reasons? Does the Department have a preliminary approach to tackle the handling of stray animals in the North East New Territories NDAs?

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

- (a) The number of stray animal nuisance complaints received and the number of stray animals caught (including those caught in response to complaints and during routine operations) by the 4 Animal Management Centres (AMCs) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in 2018 is tabulated as follows:

AMC location	Number of stray animals caught			Number of stray animal nuisance complaints received		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
Hong Kong Island	213	64	7	379	200	13
Kowloon	210	175	35	1 752	482	30
New Territories South	204	102	94	447	138	43
New Territories North	608	206	1 105	1 173	321	45

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs and poultry / birds, etc.

AFCD does not have the breakdown of complaints by District Council constituency areas.

The estimated number of stray animals to be caught in 2019 is expected to be similar to that in 2018.

- (b) Stray animals caught will be put in AMCs for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days to allow time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary surgeon as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, AFCD will arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for adoption by members of the public as far as possible. Only animals that are not suitable for adoption or not adopted at the end of the process will be euthanised.

The number of animals received and the average period that they were kept by the 4 AMCs in 2018-19 are tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of animals received			Average period kept (days)		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2018	2 254	689	3 354 [#]	20.1	17.6	29.8

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs and poultry / birds, etc.

[#] Excluding the birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

AFCD does not have information on the longest keeping periods of animals in the 4 AMCs.

The expenditure and manpower involved in catching stray animals and handling stray animals caught in 2018-19 are as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)			Manpower (number of Staff)
	Catching stray animals	Handling stray animals caught	Total	
2018-19 (revised estimate)	32.1	4.0	36.1	188

- (c) In 2019-20, AFCD will continue to take various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals. These include:
- (i) actively promoting the serious responsibility and commitment that go with pet keeping, through public education and publicity programmes to disseminate messages on proper care of animals and responsible pet ownership;
 - (ii) enhancing enforcement against pet owners in contravention of relevant legislation;
 - (iii) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to, AWOs in the re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
 - (iv) implementing a long-term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant AWOs and local communities.

In 2019-20, AFCD has earmarked \$38.3 million and 195 staff respectively for above area work.

- (d) and (e) Under the prevailing policy, except for the baseline studies (including those for wild plants and animals) conducted for specific development projects on ecological grounds, relevant departments in general do not compile statistics on other animals affected by development projects. AFCD has no plans to assess the types and number of stray animals in any new development areas.

Nevertheless, AFCD has been working closely with relevant government departments to promote and appeal to residents affected by these projects to make appropriate arrangements for their pets as early as practicable (such as transferring their pets to relatives or friends). Animal owners are also advised to approach AFCD for assistance in a timely manner so as to enable AFCD and AWOs to make early preparation for receiving these animals. AFCD will proactively liaise with AWOs to try and arrange them to accommodate animals affected by the development projects and strengthen the work in animal neutering and adoption in the affected areas. Starting from 2019-20, AFCD's resources for subventing AWOs' work, including that of rehoming, will be

increased. AFCD will provide assistance to AWOs which are interested in operating adoption centres. AWOs in need of premises running the re-homing centres may consider the suitability of vacant government sites (including vacant school premises) under the management of the Lands Department that are available for leasing by non-governmental organisations for community purposes on short-term basis. Non-profit making AWOs may also apply from a funding scheme run by the Development Bureau for subsidies to carry out one-off, basic and necessary restoration works so as to put the vacant government sites fit-for-use as re-homing centres.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)081

(Question Serial No. 0026)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Statutory Testing
Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the following information:

1. the respective expenditure of the Food Safety Laboratory in 2017-18 and 2018-19, the current staff establishment and the estimated expenditure and manpower for 2019-20;
2. the number of food samples tested for regulatory compliance in each of the past 2 years (i.e. 2017 and 2018) and the estimated number for 2019; and
3. with respect to the outsourcing of some of the routine food testing work to the private sector, the scope of food testing and the number of samples outsourced, the respective ratio of outsourcing, the expenditure incurred for the outsourcing of food testing, and the manpower and expenditure involved for supervising and spot-checking the outsourcing work in 2017-18 and 2018-19 and the estimated data for 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

1. The expenditure of the Food Safety Laboratory (FSL) under the Government Laboratory was \$31 million in 2017-18. The revised estimate for 2018-19 is \$42 million. The estimated expenditure for 2019-20 is \$45 million. FSL has a staff establishment of 33 professional and technical officers in 2018-19. Its staff establishment will increase by 1 technical officer to 34 in 2019-20.
2. The numbers of food tests (with the corresponding numbers of food samples in brackets) for regulatory compliance purpose conducted by the Government Laboratory in 2017 and 2018, and the estimated number for 2019, are as follows:

2017 (actual)	2018 (actual)	2019 (estimated)
194 543 tests (30 621 samples)	203 406 tests (30 341 samples)	190 000 tests (30 000 samples)

3. The scope and number of samples outsourced for food testing in 2017-18 and the estimated numbers for 2018-19 and 2019-20 as well as the respective ratios of outsourcing are provided in the table below:

Financial year	Number of food tests outsourced (number of samples involved)	Percentage	Scope of food testing outsourced
2017-18	123 000 (14 300 samples)	70%	preservatives, sulphur dioxide, boric acid, propionic acid, nitrate and nitrite, colouring matter, trace metals, pesticide residues, veterinary drug residues and other food contaminants
2018-19 (estimated)	126 000 (16 000 samples)	70%	- ditto -
2019-20 (estimated)	124 000 (16 800 samples)	70 %	- ditto -

The expenditure on outsourcing of food testing in 2017-18 was \$12.5 million. The estimated expenditure for 2018-19 and 2019-20 are both \$12.5 million.

The Outsourcing Management Section was established in the Government Laboratory in 2009-10 to perform outsourcing related activities including contract management and monitoring the performance of the contract laboratories. The Section consists of 7 professional and technical staff with actual expenditure of \$5.5 million for 2017-18 and estimated expenditure of \$5.7 million and \$5.9 million for 2018-19 and 2019-20 respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)082

(Question Serial No. 0194)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Statutory Testing
Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards the testing of other food samples within reporting time averaging 19 working days, it was recommended in the Office of The Ombudsman's investigation report on "Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's System of Safety Control for Imported Fruits and Vegetables" in 2017 that more resources (including manpower, machinery, space, etc.) should be put to speed up laboratory tests on food samples. In this connection, does the Government have any plans to allocate additional resources so as to shorten the reporting time of the item? If yes, what are the manpower and resources involved and what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The time required for food testing depends on a number of factors including the sampling plan, the number and types of samples involved, the number and complexity of the testing parameters covered, and the priorities indicated by the client department. The Government Laboratory (GL) strives its best to complete testing all types of samples within the shortest possible time. In this connection, the GL communicates closely with the client department, makes arrangements and deploys resources flexibly in response to the service requirements of the client department. With competing demand for resources, the testing of urgent samples relating to food incidents are given priority and will normally be completed within 2 working days, whereas the testing of other food samples will take longer time. GL reviews its manpower and other resource requirements regularly with reference to the service demand forecast of the client department and will deploy resources flexibly, including outsourcing, as necessary.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)083

(Question Serial No. 1672)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Statutory Testing
Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Programme (1), the Government mentioned 2 work objectives: (1) outsourcing some of the routine food testing work to private testing laboratories; and (2) supporting the development of testing and certification industry in Hong Kong. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- 1) Please provide the respective total numbers of testing work outsourced to the private testing laboratories by the Government in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by type and name of food;
- 2) Please give a detailed assessment of the amount of resources released from outsourcing, including the manpower and expenditure saved;
- 3) Please tabulate the respective numbers of technical seminars on outsourcing held, the numbers of participants as well as the manpower and expenditure involved in each of the past 3 years; and
- 4) Whether the Government plays a specific role in the provision of support for the development of testing and certification industry in Hong Kong (e.g. providing training opportunity or encouraging the youths to join the testing and certification industry). If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 69)

Reply:

- 1) The numbers of food tests and food samples outsourced to private testing laboratories by the Government Laboratory (GL) in the past 3 years are as follows:

Food types	Numbers of food tests outsourced by GL (number of samples involved)		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (Estimate)
Fruits, vegetables, cereals, and their related products	101 500 (8 300)	99 000 (8 200)	101 500 (9 500)
Meat, poultry, milk, aquatic products, and their related products	9 000 (3 100)	9 000 (3 000)	9 500 (3 200)
Miscellaneous	14 500 (3 100)	15 000 (3 100)	15 000 (3 300)
Total	125 000 (14 500)	123 000 (14 300)	126 000 (16 000)

2) The resources released from the outsourcing of routine food testing work have been deployed primarily for development of testing methods, handling new testing work and developing chemical metrology work to enhance the testing standards and capabilities of the laboratory sector.

3) The number of technical seminars on outsourcing organised and the number of participants are as follows:

Year	Number of technical seminars organised	Number of participants
2016-17	2	69
2017-18	1	22
2018-19	2	71

The manpower and resources required for organising the above technical seminars are absorbed from within the existing resources.

4) The Government set up the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification (HKCTC) in 2009 to advise it on the overall development strategy of the testing and certification industry. Over the years, the Government has been taking various measures to help explore new opportunities for the industry, and foster an environment conducive to the development of the industry. This includes attracting new blood to join the sector. In collaboration with testing and certification bodies, HKCTC has been organising career talks and laboratory visits as well as coordinating summer internship programmes to arouse students' interests in joining the industry. It also makes continuous efforts in enhancing the capabilities of industry practitioners through organising seminars and workshops. In the coming year, a new set of publicity materials will be produced to highlight the value of the testing and certification sector and arouse youngsters' interests to serve in the sector. To support the testing and certification industry, GL has been playing a key role in arranging proficiency tests, providing reference materials and organising technical seminars for the industry.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)084

(Question Serial No. 1943)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Advisory and Investigative Services
Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the reasons for the decrease in the estimated number of tests performed on pesticides formulation samples in 2019-20 as compared with the actual numbers of tests performed in 2017-18 and 2018-19?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

The Government Laboratory conducts tests on pesticide formulation samples in support of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in the implementation of the Pesticides Ordinance (Cap. 133). In 2017 and 2018, 710 and 367 tests were performed respectively. The higher number of tests in 2017 was due to a special service request made by AFCD. Based on the demand forecast by AFCD, it is estimated that 310 tests will be performed in 2019, comparable to the actual number of tests in 2018.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)085****(Question Serial No. 1225)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please set out in the table below the number of cases of irregularities of public market stalls, details of irregularities and follow-up actions taken in the past 3 years.

Year	No. of cases of irregularities of market stalls	No. of cases for each type of irregularity (e.g. breach of alternation requirements, occupying public passageway)	No. of verbal warnings	No. of warning letters	No. of market stall tenancies terminated
2016					
2017					
2018					

Asked by: Hon AU Nok-hin (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:-

Year	No. of cases of irregularities of market stalls	No. of verbal warnings	No. of warning letters	No. of market stall tenancies terminated
2016	2 283	1 784	2 763	42
2017	2 330	1 395	2 675	52
2018	2 401	2 077	2 863	40

The cases of irregularities refer to the breach of tenancy agreements, such as unauthorised change of trade, non-operation of stall and occupying public passageway, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep a breakdown of the irregularities by type.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)086

(Question Serial No. 3149)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the details and effectiveness of pest control work in 2018. Please also advise whether sufficient resources have been earmarked with relevant measures drawn up, including the deployment of manpower and allocation of resources, to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases; if yes, please give details of the work, the manpower and the estimated expenditure in this respect.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

Pest control work, such as the control of mosquito, rodent and other disease vectors, is carried out by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department). The Department carries out a series of operations including removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work at potential breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on locations in close proximity to human residences, schools, construction sites, public housing estates, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo working areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters and cross boundary ferry terminals. The Department adopts multi-pronged strategies for rodent disinfection in designated target areas through elimination of the survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfection and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. For effective control of other disease vectors, the prevention and control measures will be targeted at sites where the pest frequents.

The Department carries out vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation surveys, rat-flea surveys and ad hoc surveys on other insect pests. In response to vector-borne diseases, the

Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity as well as provide support and technical advice to other departments on mosquito and rodent prevention and control. It also provides training to staff of other departments to enhance their knowledge and skills in pest control.

The Department has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of pest control services. Dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory.

The estimated expenditure on pest control services for 2019-20 is \$681 million. About 700 departmental staff and 1 800 contractors' staff are deployed to pest control services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)087

(Question Serial No. 0986)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In connection with the public columbaria and crematoria in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee of:

1. the service capacity of various crematoria managed by the Department, the actual usage figures and utilisation rates of the facilities of the crematoria in each of the past 3 years;
2. the number of deaths of local residents, with a breakdown by burial method (including scattering cremains at sea, scattering cremains in the Gardens of Remembrance, interring ashes in public niches, and interring ashes in private niches) in each of the past 3 years;
3. the latest number of applications for public niches and the average waiting time;
4. the number of new public niches to be provided in the next 10 years and their locations (please present the information in tabular form);
5. the number of applications for a licence under the Private Columbaria Ordinance received, the number of cases approved and the time required for processing the applications; and
6. the locations, quantity and utilisation rates of the temporary storage facilities for cremains provided by the Department.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

1. Information on the number of cremation sessions released and sessions booked as well as the percentage of use in public crematoria managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in the past 3 calendar years is given as follows -

Name of Crematorium	2016			2017			2018		
	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked
Cape Collinson	15 111	12 945	85.7%	14 869	14 161	95.2%	14 869	14 721	99.0%
Diamond Hill	8 578	8 519	99.3%	8 253	8 203	99.4%	8 270	8 242	99.7%
Fu Shan	5 895	5 814	98.6%	5 563	5 518	99.2%	6 148	6 101	99.2%
Kwai Chung	6 560	6 494	99.0%	6 622	6 558	99.0%	7 303	7 273	99.6%
Cheung Chau	1 105	119	10.8%	1 170	101	8.6%	1 222	133	10.9%
Wo Hop Shek	10 629	9 665	90.9%	8 611	8 268	96.0%	7 421	7 333	98.8%
Total:	47 878	43 556	91.0%	45 088	42 809	94.9%	45 233	43 803	96.8%

2. The information sought is provided as follows -

Year	No. of deaths	No. of burials	No. of cremations	No. of cases of scattering of ashes		No. of ashes interment in public niches
				At sea	In Gardens of Remembrance*	
2016	46 662	3 253	43 556	900	4 466	8 630
2017	45 883	2 962	42 809	966	5 573	2 935
2018	47 479	3 136	43 803	972	6 074	3 657

* Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries.

The Department does not have information on the number of cases of interring ashes in private niches.

3. New niches are allocated through computer balloting. The last public niches allocation exercise at Kiu Tau Road Columbarium was completed in March 2016. Thereafter, there was no supply of new public niches for allocation to members of the public generally.

The waiting list applies only to the allocation of niches returned to the Department. In the past 3 calendar years, on average about 324 niches per annum were returned to the Department. These niches were re-allocated according to the priority in the waiting list of the respective columbarium. The information sought is provided as follows -

Year	No. of applications on the waiting list	Average waiting time (months)
2016	24 280	42
2017	29 168	46
2018	35 693	50

Note: The average waiting time is dependent on the number of niches that are returned to the Department for re-allocation.

4. A total of 24 potential sites have been identified in the 18 districts under the district-based columbarium development scheme. Between the second quarter of 2011 and the end of 2018, the Government consulted the relevant District Councils (DCs) on projects at 14 sites to which the DCs indicated support or no-objection, which will altogether provide around 590 000 new niches. As regards the remaining projects, the Government will continue the planning work and consult the relevant DCs when ready. If taken forward, they will provide an additional 300 000 niches.

Among the projects which have gone through DC consultation, the Department has obtained funding approval for taking forward the following -

Location	Number of niches	Anticipated Year of Completion
Hong Kong Cemeteries and Crematoria Office (Part) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department at Wong Nai Chung Road, Wan Chai District	855	2019
Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun District	163 320	2019
Wo Hop Shek Cemetery (Phase 1), North District	44 000	2019
Cheung Chau Columbarium Extension, Islands District#	1 250	2020
Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery Extension, Islands District	790	2020
Cape Collison Road, Eastern District	25 000	2022

Not under the district-based columbarium development scheme

5. The Private Columbaria Licensing Board (PCLB) has received licence applications from 108 private columbaria (excluding those withdrawn or could not be further processed). As at 18 March 2019, the PCLB has approved the licence applications in respect of 2 private columbaria and given approval-in-principle to the licence application from another private one subject to compliance with certain requirements. The remaining applications are being processed. The time required to process licence applications varies from case to case, depending to a large extent, on whether the applications have already at the time of submission complied with all the requirements stipulated in the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) and those specified by the PCLB, and whether they are accompanied by all the required documents and information.

6. The Department at present has a total of some 35 000 temporary storage spaces for cremains at the Kwai Chung Crematorium, Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phases III and V, and the vacant staff quarters at Cape Collision Crematorium and Hong Kong Cemetery respectively. Those at the Kwai Chung Crematorium and Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase III have been open for use. The information sought in respect of these 2 facilities is provided as follows -

	Kwai Chung Crematorium (For storage of cremains bags)	Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase III (For storage of cinerary urns)
Capacity for temporary storage of cremains	10 080 spaces	5 040 spaces
No. of space occupied as at 28.2.2019	1 126	2 471
Usage rate	11.2%	49.0%

In addition, some 41 000 temporary storage spaces will be made available in the coming 2 years. The Department will keep the usage of temporary storage facilities under review.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)088

(Question Serial No. 1391)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to combatting illegal deposit of refuse, please advise this Committee on:

- i. the number of complaints received against illegal deposit of refuse, with a breakdown by district in each of the past 3 years;
- ii. the number of prosecutions instituted against illegal deposit of refuse in each of the past 3 years, as well as the maximum and minimum penalties imposed;
- iii. the amount of illegally deposited refuse cleared in urban area and the expenditure involved;
- iv. the expenditure and manpower for combatting illegal deposit of refuse in each of the past 3 years, as well as the number of inspections;
- v. the blackspots currently installed with closed circuit television systems for monitoring purpose, and the number of offenders successfully prosecuted; and
- vi. the measures in place against illegal deposit of refuse.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- i. The number of complaints received regarding street cleansing in 2016, 2017 and 2018 was 63 785, 66 046 and 62 834 respectively. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep a separate breakdown on cases of illegal deposit of refuse on streets.

- ii. In accordance with the provision of the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation (Cap. 132 BK), any person depositing litter on street or public place will be prosecuted. The offender is liable to a fine up to \$25,000 and imprisonment for 6 months. The same offence may also be caught under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570), which empowers an enforcement officer to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) currently at \$1,500. In the past 3 years (from 2016 to 2018), the Department issued 34 221, 39 239 and 43 360 FPNs, and 278, 224 and 206 summonses respectively. The maximum and minimum penalties imposed were \$5,000 and \$200 respectively.
- iii. The Department does not keep statistics on the illegally deposited refuse cleared in urban areas.
- iv. The Department does not keep separate breakdown on the expenditure and manpower as well as the number of inspection for combatting illegal deposit of refuse.
- v. Since June 2018, the Department has installed Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at 115 illegal refuse deposit blackspots over the territory to curb such activities. Up to end January 2019, a total of 120 summons cases had been laid against owners of vehicles used for illegal dumping of refuse based on the footage captured, of which 76 cases were convicted. The Department plans to extend the scheme for 2 years and will consult District Councils (DCs) to draw up a prioritised site list for each district for installation of IP cameras. The Department will progressively increase the number of locations for installation of IP cameras to over 300 with consideration given to the locations proposed by DCs.
- vi. To combat illegal deposit of refuse, installation of IP cameras aside, the Department has set up 19 dedicated enforcement teams (DETs), primarily to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences since mid-2017. Up to January 2019, DETs have issued some 8 800 FPNs, and the hygiene condition of some 240 illegal dumping blackspots was markedly improved. The Department will set up additional DETs in 2019-20 to strengthen law enforcement, and also convey health messages, distribute leaflets and warning notices to arouse public awareness of maintaining street cleanliness and the proper way for disposal of refuse. In addition, the Department has, with the consent of respective DCs, extended the opening hours of some targeted refuse collection points with additional manpower provided to meet local demand at midnight or in the early morning. This arrangement has brought about noticeable improvements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)089

(Question Serial No. 0306)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding pest control services, please set out:

- I. the number of in-house staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department who were responsible for work relating to the provision of pest control services, and the expenditure involved, in the past 3 years;
- II. the number of pest control services provided by service contractors engaged by the Department, the service items, the number of staff employed and the expenditure involved in the past 3 years; and
- III. the details of various types of work on pest control carried out by the Department (including the venues, item descriptions and manpower) in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by District Council district.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

- I. The total number of in-house staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) responsible for pest control work for 2016, 2017 and 2018 was 702, 702 and 699 respectively. The expenditure for pest control services for 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was \$544 million, \$569 million and \$637 million respectively. The Department does not keep separate breakdown on the expenditure relating to its in-house staff.
- II. The Department currently procures a total of 19 contracts for pest control services. Total workforce of outsourced pest control services for 2016, 2017 and 2018 was about 1 680, 1 740 and 1 860 respectively. The outsourced pest control services provided by the contractors include the prevention and control of mosquito, rodent and

other arthropod pests with medical importance, including patrolling and eliminating potential breeding places, applying larvicides to mosquito breeding places, carrying out control measures against adult mosquito, biting midge or other adult insects by fogging, cutting grass, wild growth and other vegetation, as well as carrying out surveys and control work of rodent and other pests, etc.

The expenditure for pest control services contracts for 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was \$268 million, \$277 million and \$321 million respectively.

- III. Pest control work, such as the control of mosquito, rodent and other disease vectors, is carried out by the Department. The Department carries out a series of operations including removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work at potential breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on locations in close proximity to human residences, schools, construction sites, public housing estates, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo working areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters and cross boundary ferry terminals. The Department adopts multi-pronged strategies for rodent disinfection in designated target areas through elimination of the survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfection and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. For effective control of disease vectors, the prevention and control measures will be targeted at sites where the pest frequents. There is no breakdown on the various types of pest control work carried out by the Department by District Council district.

The Department carries out vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation surveys, rat-flea surveys and ad hoc surveys on other insect pests. In response to vector-borne diseases, the Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity as well as provide support and technical advice to other departments on mosquito and rodent prevention and control. It also provides training to staff of other departments to enhance their knowledge and skills in pest control.

The Department has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of pest control services. Dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)090****(Question Serial No. 2278)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Under the Programme, it is mentioned that the Department conducted 10 116 pest control surveys in 2018.

- I. Among the above surveys, please give details of those on mosquitoes, biting midges and rodents (including the number of surveys conducted, the areas surveyed and the coverage of the surveys) in the past 3 years.
- II. Given that the number of such surveys is expected to increase further this year as shown under the indicators, does the Department have plans to increase the manpower and expenditure? If yes, the details.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)Reply:

- I. The requested information is provided as follows -

Types of Surveys	Number of Surveys Conducted		
	2016	2017	2018
Mosquito	5 322	5 284	6 077
Rodent	1 838	1 969	2 033
Biting midge	32	128	120
Other pests	1 893	1 863	1 886
Total	9 085	9 244	10 116

Mosquito surveys include the following -

1. Dengue vector surveillance is conducted by setting up ovitraps to monitor the distribution of Aedes mosquitoes in all districts. In 2016 and 2017, the number of survey locations was 52 and the surveys were conducted once weekly per month. The programme has been enhanced since July 2018 by increasing the number of survey locations to 57 and the frequency to 2 weeks per month. Besides, the programme covers the Hong Kong International Airport on a weekly basis. The frequency of surveys in all sea and land ports has also been raised from bi-weekly to weekly since July 2018.
2. Japanese encephalitis (JE) vector surveillance is done through setting up light traps every month to collect adult mosquitoes (*Culex tritaeniorhynchus*) for testing the presence of JE virus. The programme used to cover 7 districts, including Southern, Sham Shui Po, Sai Kung, North, Kwai Tsing, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long. Since 2018, Eastern has also been included.
3. Malaria vector surveillance is conducted by carrying out rotational larval surveys at all fresh water streams in the territory to monitor the distribution of local malaria vectors.
4. Ad hoc mosquito surveys are carried out in response to mosquito-borne diseases including dengue fever, JE, Zika virus infection, Chikungunya, etc. They cover the surrounding areas of local movements of patients of relevant diseases.

Rodent surveillance includes the following -

1. Rodent infestation surveys are conducted half-yearly for detecting the presence of rodents in 41 selected locations covering all 18 districts.
2. Rat-flea surveys are conducted in selected biotope every year to assess the risk of plague transmission. In 2016 and 2017, the survey was conducted in the industrial areas. In 2018, the survey was conducted in street market areas.
3. Ad hoc rodent surveys are done in response to rodent-borne diseases including Hantavirus infection, scrub typhus, urban typhus, spotted fever, leptospirosis, rat hepatitis E virus infection, etc. They cover the surrounding areas of local movements of patients of relevant diseases.

Besides, there was a special territory-wide survey on biting midges conducted from July 2017 to July 2018 to study the seasonal variation and distribution of biting midges as well as to assess the presence of any disease vector species in Hong Kong.

- II. In 2019-20, 14 new posts will be created in the Pest Control Advisory Section of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to strengthen the dengue vector and rodent surveillance programmes as well as vector-borne disease control. The estimated additional expenditure is \$5.2 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)091

(Question Serial No. 2279)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the temporary food factory licence, please advise on:

- I. the number of applications received and the total number of licences issued by the Department in each of the past 5 years;
- II. the number of licences relating to holding bazaar activities among the licences issued (with a breakdown by name of the activity and venue for holding the activity).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

- I. The information sought is provided as follows -

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of Applications Received	1 866	2 202	1 925	2 343	2 689
Number of Licences Issued	2 630	3 354	2 998	1 624	2 183

- II. Information on bazaars (held in public places by project proponents under a bottom-up approach) that are issued with Temporary Food Factory Licences since 2017 is provided at Annex.

- End -

Bazaars issued with Temporary Food Factory Licence from 2017 to March 2019

District	Bazaar#	Location	No. of Licences issued
2017			
Sham Shui Po	農曆年熟食墟市2017	Under footbridge of Yen Chow Street	14
	深水埗·深水情·街坊節2017暨新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground	12
	趁墟 ● 趁2017復活墟市@深水埗	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street	14
	夏日見光墟	Open space in front of No.5 Wai Chi Street	15
	深水埗中秋濃情見光墟	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street	16
	聖誕暖笠笠墟市	Wai Chi Street Playground	13
Wanchai	上班一族打氣墟	Gloucester Road Garden	7
2018			
Sham Shui Po	新春食通街	Open space near Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	35
	深水埗·深水情·街坊節2018暨新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground and the pavement in Maple Street	14
	2018復活·墟市	Maple Street Playground	23
	女人墟	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street	1
	深水埗見光墟市	Wai Chi Street Playground	18
Kwun Tong	型活墟	126 Hoi Bun Road	2
Wong Tai Sin	黃大仙繽紛美食墟	Wong Tai Sin Square	8
Yuen Long	新春美食嘉年華	Open space in the vicinity of Lam Hau Tsuen	12
North	北區墟市節	Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point	1
Tai Po	聖誕音樂嘉年華@林村	Lam Tsuen The Wishing Square	4
2019*			
Sham Shui Po	香港墟市節2018閉幕禮	Maple Street Playground	10
	深水埗農曆新年見光墟	Po On Road Playground	33
	深水埗·深水情·新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground	14

Only Chinese names of the bazaar are available.
* Up to 1 March 2019.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)092****(Question Serial No. 2280)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As indicated by the figures under this Programme, a total of 5 801 food complaints were handled by the Department in 2018. Please provide the number of food complaints received by the Department in the past 3 years (with a breakdown by type of complaints). Among these cases, how many were related to “health food”? What were the major issues involved in these “health food” complaints”?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The numbers of food complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) from 2016 to 2018, with breakdown by types of complaints, are as follows -

Type of complaints	Number of food complaints received (Total)		
	2016	2017	2018
Unwholesome food	2 362	2 669	2 430
Body parts / excreta of animals or insects in food	660	752	776
Foreign substances in food	613	595	604
Deteriorated food	622	769	663
Mouldy food	188	165	154
Chemicals in food	318	289	240
Fake / counterfeit food	18	157	36
Food labels	261	392	444
Sale of food beyond expiry date	195	155	241
Packaging of food	13	8	13
Adulteration of food	2	5	7
Inadequately cooked food	80	115	113

Improper handling of food	31	20	13
Improper storage of food	25	14	7
Others	153	73	60
Total	5 541	6 178	5 801

The Department does not have breakdown on complaints related to “health food” specifically.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)093

(Question Serial No. 2281)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention this year under the Programme that the Department will “take action to close public markets which are under-utilised”.

- I. What are the details of the work plan, the manpower and the estimated expenditure involved this year?
- II. Please set out the current number of stalls, occupancy rate and expenditure on management involved of individual public markets in the territory, with a breakdown by District Council district.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

As promulgated in the 2018 Policy Address, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

- I. As a result of demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having very low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closure of such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful use to better serve the community. When considering whether an under-utilised market is to be closed, the Department will take into account a host of factors, including vacancy rate, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative sources of fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, and the likely cost-effectiveness of upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. The Department will consult the relevant District Council(s) and the market tenants to be affected on any market closure plans.

The Department closed Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market in February 2019, and is planning to close Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market and Tui Min Hoi Market in 2019-20. A dedicated team has been set up in the Department to take forward the Market Modernisation Programme and other reviews, including closure of markets, with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred by the team in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million.

- II. The number of stalls and the occupancy rate of individual public market is set out at Annex. There is no breakdown on the expenditure on market management for each of the public markets. The total expenditure on management of public markets as a whole in 2018-19 (revised estimate) is \$853 million.

- End -

District	Name of Public Markets ^(a)	As at 31 December 2018	
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate ^(b)
Eastern	Yue Wan Market	380	94%
	Chai Wan Market	174	92%
	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%
	Java Road Market	194	94%
	Electric Road Market	99	81%
	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	98%
	Quarry Bay Market	113	69%
	North Point Market	42	83%
	Aldrich Bay Market	71	92%
Wanchai	Bowrington Road Market	296	93%
	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	94%
	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	96%
	Lockhart Road Market	166	74%
	Wanchai Market	50	100%
	Causeway Bay Market	51	96%
Central/ Western	Sheung Wan Market	223	98%
	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	87%
	Centre Street Market	46	76%
	Smithfield Market	216	99%
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	91%
Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	
Southern	Aberdeen Market	335	96%
	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	82%
	Tin Wan Market	180	96%
	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	87%
	Apleichau Market	63	97%
	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	85%
Islands	Tai O Market	26	88%
	Peng Chau Market	18	100%
	Mui Wo Market	35	91%
	Cheung Chau Market	240	98%
	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	100%
	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	100%
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	86%
	Shui Wo Street Market	302	98%
	Yee On Street Market	65	92%
	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	93%
	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	97%
	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	82%

District	Name of Public Markets ^(a)	As at 31 December 2018	
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate ^(b)
	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	100%
	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	95%
Kowloon City	Tokwawan Market	267	97%
	Kowloon City Market	581	95%
	Hung Hom Market	224	98%
	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	100%
Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	87%
	Choi Hung Road Market	116	66%
	Tai Shing Street Market	442	93%
	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	99%
Yau Tsim Mong	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	69%
	Kwun Chung Market	218	85%
	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	90%
	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	92%
	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	100%
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	97%
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	449	89%
	Pei Ho Street Market	234	99%
	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	32%
	Lai Wan Market	42	98%
	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	28	39%
Kwai Tsing	Wing Fong Street Market	114	85%
	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	60%
	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%
	North Kwai Chung Market	222	91%
	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	100%
	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	91%
	Tsing Yi Market	76	99%
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	96%
	Heung Che Street Market	225	95%
	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	88%
	Tsuen Wan Market	381	89%
	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	90%
Tuen Mun	Lam Tei Market	7	100%
	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	91%
	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	100%
	San Hui Market	324	98%
	Yan Oi Market	108	94%
	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	100%
Yuen Long	Kam Tin Market	41	100%
	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	88%
	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	100%
	Tai Kiu Market	379	97%
	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%
	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	100%

District	Name of Public Markets ^(a)	As at 31 December 2018	
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate ^(b)
	Hung Shui Kiu Market	172	72%
	Tung Yick Market	446	41%
North	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	100%
	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	100%
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	100%
	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	99%
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	313	100%
	Plover Cove Road Market	244	82%
Sai Kung	Sai Kung Market	209	91%
	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	56%
Sha Tin	Sha Tin Market	172	99%
	Tai Wai Market	195	85%
	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	100%
	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	100%

Remarks:

- (a) Exclusive of a market closed in February 2019.
- (b) Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)094

(Question Serial No. 2282)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention this year under the Programme that the Department will “issue new hawker licences for trading at suitable vacant fixed pitches”.

- I. Please advise on the number of new hawker licences to be issued this year, with a breakdown by licence type and location;
- II. Please advise on the expected time required for processing a licence application and the procedures and considerations involved;
- III. Please advise on the timetable of the work, the manpower involved and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

- I. As at 31 December 2018, a total of 425 vacant hawker pitches are suitable for the re-allocation exercise. A list of the locations of these pitches is set out at Annex. Commodities permitted to be sold at hawker pitches are mainly dry goods items.
- II-III. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) proposes that vacant hawker pitches suitable for re-allocation are to be apportioned equally among 4 categories of applicants, namely, licensed newspaper hawkers, licensed itinerant hawkers, registered assistants with 5 years or more experience at the same hawker pitch, and members of the general public satisfying certain basic criteria.

The Department will invite applications for re-allocation of vacant hawker pitches and issue of new hawker licences in 2019. Upon receipt of the applications, the Department will vet the applications and check the eligibility of applicants. Random balloting procedure to determine the priority for selection of hawker pitch will then take place. Successful applicants will be invited to select vacant pitches

and we expect to issue the first batch of hawker licences in early 2020. The work is performed by the Department with a team of 12 staff at an estimated annual expenditure of about \$6.7 million.

- End -

Summary of Available Vacant Hawker Pitches for Re-allocation
(Position as at 31.12.2018)

District	Hawker Street	Number of available vacant hawker pitches for re-allocation
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	1
	Marble Road	11
	Kam Wa Street	6
	Tai Tak Street	4
	Sub-total	22
Central and Western	Pottinger Street	3
	Graham Street	6
	Peel Street	4
	Upper Lascar Row	1
	Aberdeen Street	1
	Douglas Lane	1
	Elgin Street	1
	Unnamed lane connecting Pedder Street and Theatre Lane	1
	Gilman's Bazaar	1
	Findlay Road	1
Sub-total	20	
Wan Chai	Gresson Street	7
	Cross Street	2
	Tai Yuen Street	2
	Jardine's Crescent	22
	Wun Sha Street	26
	Sub-total	59
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street	21
	Canton Road	14
	Bowring Street	5
	Temple Street	69
	Pitt Street	2
	Sub-total	111

District	Hawker Street	Number of available vacant hawker pitches for re-allocation
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street	28
	Canton Road	31
	Fife Street	8
	Yin Chong Street	4
	Ki Lung Street	5
	Poplar Street	3
	Nelson Street	3
	Nam Tau Street	1
	Sub-total	83
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	37
	Fat Tseung Street	6
	Cheung Fat Street	14
	Fuk Wing Street	1
	Pei Ho Street	1
	Apliu Street	4
	Ki Lung Street	2
	Sub-total	65
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	18
	Sub-total	18
Tsuen Wan	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	47
	Sub-total	47
Total		425

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)095****(Question Serial No. 1266)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise this Committee on:

1. the total quantities of livestock and poultry, and the respective quantities of fresh/chilled/frozen meat and poultry imported into Hong Kong over the past 3 years, with a list of countries of origin showing the quantities of these imports; and
2. the number of samples of imported fresh/chilled/frozen livestock and poultry collected by the Department for testing in the past 3 years, the number of samples detected with irregularities and the details.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pierre (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)Reply:

1. The total quantities of livestock, poultry, meat and poultry meat imported into Hong Kong in 2016, 2017 and 2018 are as follows -

2016

	Quantities imported (tonnes)						
	Top 5 economies					Others	Total
^Live cattle	Mainland 17 493	-	-	-	-	-	17 493
^Live goats	Mainland 3 396	-	-	-	-	-	3 396
^Live pigs	Mainland 1 439 568	-	-	-	-	-	1 439 568
^Live chickens	Mainland 32 000	-	-	-	-	-	32 000
^Other live poultry	Mainland 590 598	-	-	-	-	-	590 598

Chilled beef	Australia 3 669	USA 2 306	Brazil 758	Japan 426	New Zealand 393	385	7 937
Frozen beef	Brazil 194 694	USA 96 348	Canada 21 324	UK 3 970	Ireland 3 936	30 403	350 675
Chilled mutton	Australia 360	New Zealand 175	UK 32	France 10	USA 1	3	581
Frozen mutton	New Zealand 1 611	Mainland 1 171	Australia 829	UK 208	Ireland 104	56	3 979
Chilled pork	Mainland 7 625	Brazil 1 123	USA 411	Canada 316	Australia 309	184	9 968
Frozen pork	Brazil 121 996	USA 52 684	Mainland 35 003	Germany 25 315	Netherlands 18 978	77 871	331 847
Chilled poultry	Mainland 88 161	Thailand 591	Australia 202	France 68	Australasia & Oceania, Nesoi 12	17	89 051
Frozen poultry	USA 295 753	Brazil 286 055	Mainland 64 169	Poland 20 490	UK 15 852	95 568	777 887

2017

	Quantities imported (tonnes)						
	Top 5 economies					Others	Total
^Live cattle	Mainland 17 338	-	-	-	-	-	17 338
^Live goats	Mainland 3 465	-	-	-	-	-	3 465
^Live pigs	Mainland 1 455 379	-	-	-	-	-	1 455 379
^Live chickens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Other live poultry	Mainland 76 720	-	-	-	-	-	76 720
Chilled beef	Australia 3 813	USA 2 214	Japan 553	Brazil 545	New Zealand 376	471	7 972
Frozen beef	Brazil 212 796	USA 94 272	Canada 16 718	Ireland 10 523	UK 8 714	36 449	379 472
Chilled mutton	Australia 402	New Zealand 185	UK 66	France 7	Ireland 3	2	665
Frozen mutton	Australia 3 301	New Zealand 2 031	Mainland 1 285	Spain 619	UK 459	926	8 621
Chilled pork	Mainland 6 680	Brazil 2 856	Australia 344	Canada 342	Spain 206	323	10 751
Frozen pork	Brazil 98 013	USA 60 056	Mainland 42 719	Germany 40 974	Netherlands 24 514	82 345	348 621

Chilled poultry	Mainland 92 513	Thailand 828	Australia 274	France 94	Western Europe Nesoi 8	15	93 732
Frozen poultry	USA 293 696	Brazil 260 879	Mainland 63 620	Poland 24 039	France 13 508	79 182	734 924

2018

	Quantities of food imported (tonnes)						
	Top 5 economies					Others	Total
^Live cattle	Mainland 17 162	-	-	-	-	-	17 162
^Live goats	Mainland 3 513	-	-	-	-	-	3 513
^Live pigs	Mainland 1 468 150	-	-	-	-	-	1 468 150
^Live chickens	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
^Other live poultry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chilled beef	Australia 4 088	USA 2 973	Brazil 1 487	New Zealand 444	Japan 433	472	9 897
Frozen beef	Brazil 269 750	USA 92 143	Canada 15 812	UK 9 877	Ireland 8 796	27 804	424 182
Chilled mutton	Australia 325	New Zealand 217	UK 63	Mainland 29	Ireland 12	14	660
Frozen mutton	Australia 2 894	New Zealand 1 898	Mainland 1 148	UK 598	Ireland 570	942	8 050
Chilled pork	Mainland 5 421	Brazil 3 118	Canada 365	Spain 318	Australia 316	271	9 809
Frozen pork	Brazil 108 741	Mainland 33 265	USA 29 797	Netherlands 15 525	Germany 13 024	40 229	240 581
Chilled poultry	Mainland 90 812	Thailand 993	Australia 295	France 63	UK 47	52	92 262
Frozen poultry	USA 274 854	Brazil 223 571	Mainland 60 179	Poland 22 072	UK 10 585	75 959	667 220

^ The unit is “heads / number” instead of “tonnes”.

2. From 2016 to 2018, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) collected more than 4 200 samples of meat, poultry meat and their products at the import level for chemical analysis (including analysis of veterinary drug residues, preservatives, etc). Except one chilled goose sample taken in 2018 which was detected to have veterinary drug residue of

doxycycline exceeding the legal limit, all other samples were found satisfactory. CFS made public the unsatisfactory test result and took follow-up actions accordingly.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)096

(Question Serial No. 1202)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the estimated expenditure for the installation of cameras at 300 illegal refuse dumping blackspots?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will progressively install more Internet Protocol cameras over the territory with a view to covering over 300 locations over a two-year period commencing August 2019 tentatively. The estimated annual expenditure is about \$26 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)097

(Question Serial No. 2303)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

There are some 700 public toilets in the territory. It is mentioned in the Budget that the Government will allocate over \$600 million to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) for refurbishing its public toilets by phases, improving ventilation and other facilities, as well as enhancing their cleanliness and hygiene, about 240 public toilets will be involved in the coming 5 years. Under the Programme of the Estimates, it is stated that the FEHD will improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases. Please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the 10 public toilets with the highest usage in the past 3 years;
- (2) the 10 most heavily complained public toilets and the major items of complaints in the past 3 years;
- (3) the number of public toilets in the territory that are installed with automatic sensor taps, with a breakdown of 18 districts in tabular form; and
- (4) the number of public toilets in the territory that are installed with automatic sensor flushing system (e.g. intelligent sensing or foot-operated flushing system), with a breakdown of 18 districts in tabular form.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

- (1) & (2) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep a list of the top 10 public toilets with the highest utilisation nor the highest number of complaints. Amongst the 799 public toilets managed by the Department, 207 have a high utilisation rate (a daily average of over 300 visitors). The number of public toilets with a high utilisation rate is set out at Annex.

The Department received 2 626 complaints against public toilet/bathroom services in 2018. There is no breakdown of the statistics by individual toilet.

- (3)&(4) Amongst 799 public toilets managed by the Department, about 720 are provided with automatic sensor taps and about 190 are provided with an automatic sensor flushing system. The Department will as far as possible install automatic sensor taps and flushing facilities in new public toilets or when the public toilets are refurbished. The number of public toilets with automatic sensor taps and an automatic sensor flushing system broken down by district is provided at Annex.

- End -

**Number of Public Toilets with High Utilisation Rate, Automatic Sensor Taps,
Automatic Sensor Flushing System**

District	Number of public toilets with a high utilisation rate	Number of public toilets with automatic sensor taps	Number of public toilets with an automatic sensor flushing system
Central and Western	30	24	10
Wan Chai	18	15	2
Eastern	9	11	4
Southern	7	21	11
Islands	22	62	18
Yau Tsim Mong	13	20	4
Sham Shui Po	7	10	3
Kowloon City	15	15	0
Wong Tai Sin	3	5	4
Kwun Tong	4	8	6
Kwai Tsing	7	15	13
Tsuen Wan	4	28	8
Tuen Mun	7	46	2
Yuen Long	20	173	24
North	14	126	44
Tai Po	15	65	15
Sha Tin	7	20	12
Sai Kung	5	57	13

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)098

(Question Serial No. 2304)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) What selection criteria will be adopted for the 240 public toilets to be refurbished in the coming 5 years?
- (2) With the Government spending over \$600 million for refurbishing public toilets, how many public toilets are expected to be refurbished each year?
- (3) What are the major items of facilities to be improved?
- (4) Will additional staffing expenses be incurred under the programme? If yes, what is the expenditure to be involved?
- (5) How many public toilets are provided with toilet attendants? Please specify and set out the average hours per day when attendants are stationed at public toilets in each of the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

- (1)-(2) About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.
- (3) New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design,

installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

- (4) 26 additional staff will be deployed to implement the refurbishment or facelifting programme, incurring an estimated annual expenditure of about \$19.8 million.
- (5) In general, toilet attendant services are provided in public toilets with a high patronage rate or at tourist spots. At present, 264 public toilets managed by the Department are provided with toilet attendant services, comprising 77 on Hong Kong Island, 60 in Kowloon and 127 in the New Territories or on outlying islands. The work shift of toilet attendants is less than 10 hours a day. There is no further breakdown on the average hours of work shifts of toilet attendants.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)099

(Question Serial No. 2305)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) How many public toilets under the management of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the territory are provided with air improvement equipment? What are the major items of equipment?
- (2) Is air purification system included in the refurbishment and design improvement programme to improve the air quality of public toilets?
- (3) When will be the next review of the male-to-female toilet compartment ratio which is currently 1:16?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (1) & (2) Public toilets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) are generally provided with mechanical ventilation supported by air exhaust systems and oscillating fans to improve ventilation. Air fresheners are also provided for odour control. We plan to launch pilot schemes on provision of air conditioning and other equipment such as application of ozone technology and Nano Confined Catalytic Oxidation technology in public toilets to improve air quality. If proven effective, we will apply these technologies to wider use in the public toilet refurbishment programme gradually.
- (3) At present, the ratio of number of male-to-female toilet compartments is generally 1:2 for new and refurbished public toilets. The Department will keep the ratio under review and consider further changes to meet service demands.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)100

(Question Serial No. 2306)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government plans to improve the employment terms and conditions of non-skilled workers employed by its outsourced service contractors. Regarding current outsourced public toilet cleansing services, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) What is the ratio of full-time workers to part-time workers?
- (2) How many non-skilled workers are not entitled to payment for meal breaks in calculating wages? What is the proportion of such workers in all of the non-skilled workers?
- (3) How many contracts require the provision of rest rooms for employees and how many contractors do provide such facilities? If they are not provided, will the Department consider including a clause on the provision of rest rooms in its service contracts?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep information on outsourced workers concerning their employment details such as entitlement to paid meal breaks and full-time to part-time ratio.

At present, attendant services are provided by contractors at 264 public toilets, of which 231 are provided with attendant rooms. If circumstances permit, the Department will make available or improve the provisions for attendant rooms for public toilet attendants when these toilets are refurbished.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)101

(Question Serial No. 3015)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

From April 2019, the Government will implement a series of improvement measures to enhance the protection of non-skilled workers employed by government service contractors with respect to the employment terms and conditions as well as labour benefits. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. (i) the technical weighting for tender evaluation, (ii) the weighting of wage level as a criterion for technical assessment and (iii) the detailed calculation method adopted for the assessment of the wage level for service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department that rely heavily on the deployment of non-skilled workers; and
2. the estimated additional expenditure for the implementation of a series of improvement measures by the Department in 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 8605)

Reply:

- (1) For evaluation of tenders to be issued on or after 1 April 2019 which rely heavily on the deployment of non-skilled workers, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adopt a marking scheme with a weighting of 50% for price and 50% for technical assessment. The weighting of wage level for non-skilled workers will be 25 points out of 100 points (25%) in the technical assessment. The tenderer who proposes the highest committed wage rate will be given the full mark of 25 points in the criterion of wage level while the others will obtain lower marks on a pro-rata basis.
- (2) The additional expenditure incurred by the Department in implementing the enhancement measures is estimated to be about \$52.4 million in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)102****(Question Serial No. 2110)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. What was the financial provision allocated to and the staff establishment of the Joint Offices for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JOs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 years?
2. Please provide the number of water seepage cases in the past 3 years in which JOs have visited the flats concerned and conducted investigation. Among them, how many cases have been successfully dealt with? What is the number of prosecutions taken against households which are the sources of seepage?
3. There are criticisms that the equipment and methods used by the JOs in water seepage investigation are outdated, which resulted in the failure to identify the source of seepage in certain cases. In this regard, does the Department have any plan to increase the resources for JOs in the coming year and purchase more advanced equipment for testing water seepage, e.g. infrared thermography and ultrasonic scanning devices, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of investigation?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

1. The staff establishment and expenditure of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and the Buildings Department (BD) in connection with the operation of the Joint Office (JO) in the past 3 years are provided as follows -

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
FEHD			
Number of investigation and coordinating staff	220	224	227
Staff costs and departmental expenses (\$ million)	86.3	99.7	109.2 (revised estimate)

BD			
Number of professional and technical staff	64	64	76
Staff costs and departmental expenses (\$ million)	32.0	34.3	42.2 (revised estimate)
Expenditure for engaging outsourced consultants (\$ million)	31.0	36.6	36.0 (revised estimate)

2. The information sought is as follows -

Number of Cases	2016	2017	2018
Reports received	36 376	36 002	36 684
Cases screened out ⁽¹⁾	13 196	14 732	14 571
Cases with seepage ceased during investigation	5 385	5 448	4 757
Cases with source of water seepage identified	6 846	6 253	5 729
Cases with source of water seepage not identified and investigation terminated	3 721	4 172	3 164
No. of prosecutions instituted	95	114	82

Note (1) : These include unjustified cases and withdrawn cases.

3. Since June 2018, JO has applied testing technologies, such as infrared thermography (IT) and microwave tomography (MT) in Stage III of the water seepage investigation on a pilot basis in certain districts. In 2019-20, additional resources will be allocated to JO for creating additional professional and technical posts and extending the use of IT and MT to more districts.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)103

(Question Serial No. 2115)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. It is mentioned in paragraph 169 of the Budget Speech that a total expenditure of over \$600 million will be incurred in the coming 5 years for improving 240 public toilets. What are the distribution of the 240 public toilets by district?
2. What are the prioritisation criteria for public toilets to be refurbished? Will the Department consider soliciting public views through consultation before deciding on the final list?
3. There are quite a few refurbished or newly built public toilets where the facilities are soon damaged, stolen or defaced, which reflects the importance of public education. Will the Government allocate resources to step up publicity to promote civic-mindedness in this respect?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

Reply:

- 1-2. About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will consult the relevant District Councils on refurbishment of public toilets, including the layout, duration of the refurbishment works as well as the temporary arrangement during closure.

3. The Department will continue to make use of the Facebook and Instagram pages of Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak as well as other publicity materials to step up public education on the importance of toilet hygiene and the proper use of toilet facilities. With the experience of setting up health education promotional booths at selected public toilets with a high utilisation rate, the Department plans to extend implementation of the measure to other suitable public toilets to remind the public of being mindful and considerate when using public toilets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)104

(Question Serial No. 2646)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is estimated in the Budget that a total of \$600 million will be allocated to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to refurbish its public toilets by phases in the coming 5 years. Please elaborate on how the \$600 million will be used.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)105

(Question Serial No. 0002)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the respective numbers of Mainland processing plants exporting chilled pork and chilled beef to Hong Kong, the total import and average import price of Mainland chilled pork and chilled beef, as well as the number of inspections to the relevant Mainland processing plants, in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2016, 2017 and 2018).

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

There were 6 Mainland processing plants approved for supplying chilled pork and 7 Mainland processing plants approved for supplying chilled beef to Hong Kong for 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively.

According to the figures provided by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), about 7 625 tonnes, 6 680 tonnes and 5 421 tonnes of Mainland chilled pork were imported into Hong Kong in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. There was no import of Mainland chilled beef into Hong Kong from 2016 to 2018.

According to the figures released by the C&SD, the average import price of Mainland chilled pork in 2016, 2017 and 2018 was \$18.2, \$17.3 and \$16.6 per catty respectively.

In 2016, 2017 and 2018, the Centre for Food Safety inspected 5, 4 and 3 of Mainland chilled pork processing plants, and 1, 0 and 1 of Mainland chilled beef processing plants respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)106

(Question Serial No. 0003)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of Mainland farms or processing plants supplying live, chilled and frozen chickens to Hong Kong, the quantities of live, chilled and frozen chickens imported from the Mainland into Hong Kong, their respective share and average import price in each of the past three years (i.e. from 2016 to 2018). Besides, please advise on the number of inspections to these farms or processing plants, as well as the manpower and expenditure required, in each of these years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

There were 34, 28 and 29 Mainland registered poultry farms eligible for supplying live poultry to Hong Kong in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) inspected 25, 25 and 16 of them in the respective years.

There were 15, 16 and 16 Mainland processing plants eligible for supplying chilled chickens to Hong Kong in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. CFS inspected 16, 14 and 17 of them in the respective years, including those then applying for CFS' approval.

There were 90 and 92 Mainland processing plants eligible for supplying frozen chickens to Hong Kong in 2017 and 2018 respectively. CFS inspected 2 and 1 of them in 2017 and 2018 respectively.

The quantities of live, chilled and frozen chickens imported from the Mainland into Hong Kong in 2016, 2017 and 2018 are as follows –

	Live chicken			Chilled chicken			Frozen chicken		
	Quantity (kg)*	%	Average import price (\$/kg)*#	Quantity (kg)@	%	Average import price (\$/kg)#	Quantity (kg)@	%	Average import price (\$/kg)#
2016	55 000	0.05	11.3	57 418 000	52.16	19.7	52 606 000	47.79	17.3
2017	-	-	-	61 996 000	51.87	20.9	57 532 000	48.13	16.1
2018	-	-	-	61 174 000	53.22	20.5	53 770 000	46.78	17.3

* The information is provided by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. The import data on live chickens as given in the trade declarations is on a per chicken basis. To facilitate comparison, the quantity and the price are presented in terms of kg by a conversion factor of 1.72 kg per live chicken in 2016.

@ This is based on information from the Hong Kong Merchandise Trade Statistics.

The information is provided by the Census and Statistics Department, based on trader's import declarations to the Customs and Excise Department.

Inspections of live poultry farms outside Hong Kong are undertaken by an inspection unit in CFS comprising 11 officers. The actual expenditure for conducting inspections of this type of farms was \$6.3 million in 2016-17 and \$6.4 million in 2017-18. The revised estimate of expenditure in 2018-19 is \$7.6 million.

Inspections of food processing plants outside Hong Kong are undertaken by the Food Import and Export Section of CFS. The actual expenditure for conducting inspections of these types of plants was \$2.55 million in 2016-17 and \$2.11 million in 2017-18. The revised estimate of expenditure in 2018-19 is \$2.1 million. There is no separate breakdown on the resources specifically for conducting inspections to the Mainland chilled and frozen chicken processing plants.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)107

(Question Serial No. 0027)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Department will follow up proactively on the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control. Please provide the details, including the specific measures, the progress, the implementation timetable, and the manpower and expenditure required.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a task group, led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission and the Legislative Council Public Accounts Committee concerning the work of CFS in food safety management and import control. The task group has commenced comprehensive reviews on CFS' operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has started to roll out concrete and effective short, medium and long term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, and strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. In 2019-20, 35 additional civil service posts will be created in CFS along with an additional provision of \$25 million to implement the reviews and the enhancement measures.

In addition, CFS already put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)108

(Question Serial No. 0028)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Department will continue to re-engineer workflow, overhaul and develop new information technology systems for the Centre for Food Safety for more effective management of data in food import and food safety incidents. Please provide the details, including the specific measures, implementation timetable, information technology systems involved, specific targets of enhancement and optimisation, and the manpower and expenditure required.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019. Specifically, a Food Trader Portal will be set up to provide a platform for electronic communication between CFS and food traders. The existing Food Import Control System will be replaced by a new IT system which will support the streamlined workflow and procedures on import control and the issuance of food export certification. There will be a newly developed Food Incident Management System to strengthen the management of food safety incidents. The above systems will interface with each other to provide a well-connected network of information in support of risk profiling and risk-based inspection to enhance food safety control.

The dedicated team in charge of the above work will have 74 staff at an estimated staffing expenditure of about \$58 million in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)109

(Question Serial No. 0029)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards the Government's plan to allocate more resources to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for refurbishing its public toilets by phases, improving ventilation and other facilities, as well as enhancing their cleanliness and hygiene, it is estimated that a total expenditure of over \$600 million may be incurred, involving about 240 public toilets in the coming 5 years. Please provide details of:

1. the selection criteria for public toilets to be refurbished;
2. the number of public toilets to be refurbished in each of the coming 5 years;
3. the specific refurbishment works items and new facilities of each public toilet; and
4. the expected implications on manpower and work procedures for management of public toilets upon completion of the refurbishment works.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- 1-2. About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.
3. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

4. It is anticipated that the refurbishment or facelifiting works will improve considerably the hardware of public toilets, which will be conducive to their daily management and upkeeping. The Department will make sure that adequate manpower will be deployed to provide cleansing services for public toilets and that the contractors' performance is under close supervision.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)110****(Question Serial No. 0030)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of liquor licence applications received and appeals lodged, the average time taken for processing an application and listing an appeal for hearing, the success rate of appeals, as well as the number of liquor licences revoked (with a breakdown by reasons for revocation), in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. After the implementation of the Reserve Licensee Mechanism in March 2017, what are the number of applications for nomination of a reserve licensee and the number of applications approved in 2017-18 and 2018-19?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

	2016		2017		2018	
Total number of liquor licence applications received (with number of applications for new licences in brackets)	6 520 (1 032)		6 324 (1 181)		6 865 (1 131)	
Average time taken for processing an application for liquor licence	1-year licence	2-year licence ²	1-year licence	2-year licence ²	1-year licence	2-year licence ²
	43 days ¹	37 days	36 days ¹	34 days	34 days ¹	32 days
Number of appeals lodged with Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	22		25		11	
Average time taken for listing an appeal for hearing ³	74 days		83 days		82 days	

Success rate of appeals (i.e. appeals allowed by MSAB) ⁴	76%	86%	73%
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¹ The majority of the one-year liquor licences were contested cases and hence required a longer processing time.

² Introduced since August 2015.

³ This is counted from the date of MSAB receiving the appeal application to the date of the case being heard.

⁴ Only appeal cases with MSAB's decision issued before the end of a year are taken into account for calculating the success rate of appeals in that year.

The number of liquor licences revoked in 2016, 2017 and 2018 with breakdown by reasons is provided as follows -

Reasons for revocation of liquor licences	Number of liquor licences revoked		
	2016	2017	2018
Cessation of business	7	20	12
Breach of licensing condition	0	0	1
Contravention of legislation	0	1	4
Total	7	21	17

The number of applications for nomination of a reserve licensee and the number of applications approved in 2017-18 and 2018-19 are provided as follows -

Nomination of Reserve Licensee ⁵	2017-18	2018-19 ⁶
Number of applications received	2 411	1 375
Number of applications approved ⁷	1 490	1 534

⁵ Introduced since 28 March 2017.

⁶ As at 28 February 2019.

⁷ Applications approved include those lodged in the previous year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)111****(Question Serial No. 0031)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise on the number of processed applications for restaurant licences, provisional restaurant licences and transfer of restaurant licences, the average time for processing an application, as well as the number of applications withdrawn in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. Please also advise on the expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2016, 2017 and 2018) and the estimated expenditure and manpower required for 2019.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

		2016	2017	2018
(a)	No. of full restaurant licences issued	1 488	1 448	1 651
	No. of applications withdrawn	171	165	184
	Average processing time for issuing a full restaurant licence (working days)	172	171	170
(b)	No. of provisional restaurant licences issued	1 507	1 695	1 551
	No. of applications withdrawn	170	161	180
	Average processing time for issuing a provisional restaurant licence (working days)	49	50	50
(c)	No. of applications for transfer of restaurant licences	808	1 198	1 142
	No. of applications withdrawn	5	5	1
	Average time for processing the applications for transfer (working days)	42	39	44

Under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, 114 staff in 3 licensing offices are responsible for handling applications for food business and other trade licences, etc. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in the handling of applications for full restaurant licences, provisional restaurant licences and transfer of restaurant licences.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)112****(Question Serial No. 0032)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the number of applications by restaurant licensees for outside seating accommodation and the average time for processing an application in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. Please also list the number of applications rejected (with a breakdown by reasons for rejection), appeals lodged and applications withdrawn in each of the above three years. Besides, please advise on the manpower and expenditure involved for each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2016, 2017 and 2018) and the estimated expenditure and manpower required for 2019.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

	2016	2017	2018
Number of applications for outside seating accommodation	98	92	100
Average time taken for processing an application ^{Note}	15 months	15 months	14 months
Number of applications approved	18	31	31
Number of applications rejected	4	4	3
Number of applications withdrawn/abandoned	58	62	75
Number of appeals lodged	0	0	0

Note: The processing time for an application is contingent upon the time spent by the applicant in complying with the relevant licensing requirements; settling objections raised by the public or other departments concerned; and addressing relevant land issues, if any. It varies from case to case.

The applications rejected in 2016, 2017 and 2018 were due to objections raised by the departments concerned.

Under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, 114 staff in 3 licensing offices are responsible for handling applications for food business and other trade licences as well as applications for outside seating accommodation, etc. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in the handling of applications for outside seating accommodation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)113

(Question Serial No. 0033)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of applications for revision of layout plans submitted by restaurant licensees and the number of applications approved in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. Please also set out in tabular form the average, longest and shortest time taken for processing an application in each of the above 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

In 2016, 2017 and 2018, there were 466, 441 and 553 applications respectively for alteration to the approved layout of licensed restaurants. The corresponding number of approvals was 363, 318 and 285 respectively. Processing of some applications received in a year may not be completed in the same year. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the average, longest and shortest time taken for processing an application for alteration to the approved layout.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)114****(Question Serial No. 0034)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please set out in tabular form the number of Mainland production farms exporting food (such as vegetables, fruits, live pigs, live cattle, live chickens, freshwater fish, etc.) to Hong Kong and the number of inspections to these production farms in each of the years from 2016 to 2018. Please also advise on the estimated number of inspections to be conducted in 2019, as well as the expenditure and manpower required for 2018-19 and 2019-20 respectively.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)Reply:

Information on the types and numbers of registered Mainland farms eligible for export of food to Hong Kong in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively is set out as follows –

Calendar year	Vegetable farms	Orchards	Poultry farms	Pig farms	Cattle farms	Goat farms	Aquatic food animal farms	Total
2016	442	2 978	34	213	36	1	191	3 895
2017	458	2 978	28	173	38	3	150	3 828
2018	458	3 384	29	154	36	3	122	4 186

Information on the types and numbers of food production farms in the Mainland inspected by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively is set out as follows –

Calendar year	Vegetable farms	Orchards	Poultry farms	Pig farms	Cattle farms	Goat farms	Aquatic food animal farms	Total
2016	9	3	25	19	3	1	5	65

2017	18	1	25	8	4	0	7	63
2018	7	4	16	7	7	0	13	54

In 2019, CFS plans to inspect about 55 farms outside Hong Kong, including 35 food animal and fish farms as well as 20 vegetable farms and orchards. The actual number of farms inspected each year will depend on needs and circumstances.

Inspections of food animal and fish farms outside Hong Kong are undertaken by an inspection unit in CFS comprising 3 veterinary officers, 8 field officers and 1 fisheries officer. The revised estimate of expenditure for conducting inspections of those types of farms in 2018-19 was \$12.7 million, and the estimated expenditure in 2019-20 is \$12.9 million. CFS does not have breakdown on the resources used for conducting inspections of farms by geographical locations.

Inspections of vegetable farms and orchards outside Hong Kong are undertaken by another unit in CFS led by an agricultural officer. As this unit is also tasked with other duties, CFS does not have breakdown on the resources specifically used for conducting inspections of those types of farms.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)115

(Question Serial No. 0035)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the usage rate of the on-line Licence Application Tracking Facility in respect of food business licences, as well as the usage rate of the on-line licence application service for liquor licences, food business licences and other relevant endorsements, in each of the past three years (i.e. from 2016 to 2018). Please provide details of the publicity work, manpower arrangement and expenditure required in promoting the service.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

In 2016, 2017 and 2018, 57%, 57% and 59% respectively of the applicants for food business licences or their authorised persons made use of the online Licence Application Tracking Facility to monitor the progress of their applications. In 2016, 2017 and 2018, 74%, 59% and 65% respectively of the applicants for liquor licences (including club liquor licences) or their authorised persons made use of the Liquor Licence Processing System.

Starting from 1 January 2013, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) accepts online submission of applications for food business licences and permits. In 2016, 2017 and 2018, 13% of the applicants (i.e. 910 out of 7 247), 13% (i.e. 1 011 out of 8 047) and 12% (i.e. 1 039 out of 8 762) made use of the service respectively. To encourage wider use of the online service, the Department has displayed promotional posters in the SME One Centre of the Hong Kong Productivity Council, the 19 district environmental hygiene offices and the 3 licensing offices; and conducted briefings for the trade at meetings organised by the Efficiency Office and the bi-monthly seminars on restaurant licensing. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in the promotion work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)116****(Question Serial No. 0036)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

How many non-local food production farms and food processing plants (apart from those on the Mainland) were inspected in each of the years from 2016 to 2018? What are the staff establishment required and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)Reply:

Information on the numbers of food production farms and food processing plants outside Hong Kong, other than those in the Mainland, inspected by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively is set out as follows –

Calendar year	Food production farms	Food processing plants	Total
2016	8	11	19
2017	11	23	34
2018	13	9	22

Inspections of food animal and fish farms outside Hong Kong are undertaken by an inspection unit in CFS comprising 3 veterinary officers, 8 field officers and 1 fisheries officer. The actual expenditure for conducting inspections of those types of farms was \$10.5 million in 2016-17 and \$10.8 million in 2017-2018. The revised estimate of expenditure in 2018-19 was \$12.7 million. CFS does not have breakdown on the resources used for conducting inspections of farms by geographical locations.

Inspections of vegetable farms, orchards and food processing plants outside Hong Kong are undertaken by 2 other units in CFS comprising 1 agricultural officer, 5 health inspectors and some other supporting staff. As these units are also tasked with other duties, CFS does not

have breakdown on the resources used specifically for conducting inspections of those types of farms and food processing plants.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)117****(Question Serial No. 0037)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

How many applications for permits for online sale of restricted foods were received and what was the average time for processing an application in each of the years from 2016 to 2018? Please set out the number of applications rejected (with a breakdown by reasons for rejection), appeals lodged and applications withdrawn. Please also advise on the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)Reply:

Statistics related to the processing of applications for permits for online sale of restricted foods are as follows –

	2016¹	2017	2018
Number of applications received	284	189	323
Average time for processing an application	55 days	61 days	62 days
Number of permits issued ²	151	146	203
Number of applications which required no further processing ³	75	32	78
Number of applications rejected	0	0	0
Number of appeals lodged	0	0	0

¹ The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) started receiving applications on 22 February 2016.

² Applications received in a year may be carried forward with the processing completed in the subsequent year. As at 31 December 2018, of the cumulative number of 500 permits issued, 395 of them were valid and listed on the website of the Department.

- ³ Applications required no further processing due to withdrawal by the applicants or other factors, such as the businesses under application did not involve the sale of restricted foods, or the premises concerned were covered by relevant licences.

Staff of the Department who process applications for permits for online sale of restricted foods are also responsible for processing applications for other types of licences/permits. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in processing applications for permits for online sale of restricted foods.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)118

(Question Serial No. 0060)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of Mainland processing plants supplying chilled pork to Hong Kong, the total import and average import price of Mainland chilled pork, as well as the number of inspections to the Mainland chilled pork processing plants, in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2016, 2017 and 2018).

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

There were 6 Mainland processing plants approved for supplying chilled pork to Hong Kong for 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively.

According to the figures provided by the Census and Statistics Department, about 7 625 tonnes, 6 680 tonnes and 5 421 tonnes of Mainland chilled pork were imported into Hong Kong in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. The average import price of Mainland chilled pork was \$18.2, \$17.3 and \$16.6 per catty in the respective years.

In 2016, 2017 and 2018, the Centre for Food Safety inspected 5, 4 and 3 of Mainland chilled pork processing plants respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)119

(Question Serial No. 0061)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the number of live poultry stalls in operation in each of the public markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2018.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

- End -

Serial No.	Name of Market	Number of live poultry stalls as at end 2018
1.	Aberdeen Market	1
2.	Bowrington Road Market	1
3.	Causeway Bay Market	2
4.	Chai Wan Market	2
5.	Fa Yuen Street Market	1
6.	Heung Che Street Market	1
7.	Hung Hom Market	2
8.	Java Road Market	3
9.	Kowloon City Market	2
10.	Kwun Chung Market	2
11.	Lai Wan Market	1
12.	Lockhart Road Market	3
13.	Luen Wo Hui Market	2
14.	Ngau Chi Wan Market	1
15.	Ngau Tau Kok Market	3
16.	North Kwai Chung Market	1
17.	Pei Ho Street Market	7
18.	Po On Road Market	3
19.	Quarry Bay Market	1
20.	San Hui Market	2
21.	Sha Tin Market	2
22.	Shek Wu Hui Market	3
23.	Sheung Fung Street Market	1
24.	Sheung Wan Market	7
25.	Shui Wo Street Market	1
26.	Tai Kiu Market	2
27.	Tai Kok Tsui Market	1
28.	Tai Po Hui Market	5
29.	Tai Shing Street Market	2
30.	Tai Wai Market	2
31.	Tang Lung Chau Market	1
32.	To Kwa Wan Market	1
33.	Tsuen Wan Market	3
34.	Tung Yick Market	3
35.	Wing Fong Street Market	1
36.	Yan Oi Market	2
37.	Yau Ma Tei Market	2
38.	Yeung Uk Road Market	5
	Total:	85

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)120

(Question Serial No. 0062)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the total number of stalls, the number of vacant stalls as well as the vacancy rate in each of the public cooked food markets across the territory in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The information sought is set out at Annex.

- End -

Serial No.	Name of Cooked Food Market ^a	No. of stalls			No. of vacant stalls (of which frozen ^b) as at 31 December			Vacancy rate ^c as at 31 December		
		2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
1	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	32	32	2(2)	2(2)	4(4)	6%	6%	12.5%
2	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
3	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market ^d	28	28	28	16(16)	17(17)	17(17)	57%	61%	61%
4	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
5	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
6	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
7	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	1(0)	0	1(0)	9%	0%	9%
8	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	16	15	15	6(0)	6(6)	6(6)	38%	40%	40%
9	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
10	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
11	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
12	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
13	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	12	11	11	2(0)	1(1)	1(1)	17%	9%	9%
14	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	29	29	0	1(1)	1(1)	0%	3%	3%
15	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
16	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
17	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	4(3)	5(3)	5(5)	14%	18%	18%
18	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
19	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	0	2(2)	3(3)	0%	12%	18%
20	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
21	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
22	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	56	56	0	4(4)	4(4)	0%	7%	7%

Serial No.	Name of Cooked Food Market ^a	No. of stalls			No. of vacant stalls (of which frozen ^b) as at 31 December			Vacancy rate ^c as at 31 December		
		2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
23	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%
24	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%

- ^a The figure in respect of a cooked food market closed in February 2019 is excluded.
- ^b Including the number of vacant stalls that are frozen for reasons such as forthcoming improvement works.
- ^c Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- ^d Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market is planned to be closed in June 2019.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)121****(Question Serial No. 0984)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise on the number of fresh provision shops with permission for selling live poultry and permission for selling fresh poultry carcasses in 2018.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

Fresh provision shops	Number as at 31.12.2018
(1) With permission for selling live poultry (including fresh poultry carcasses)	45
(2) With permission for selling fresh poultry carcasses (other than (1) above)	30

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)122

(Question Serial No. 0716)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the green burial services, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. the number of cases of using the services of scattering cremains in the Gardens of Remembrance and scattering cremains at sea, the utilisation rate, and the percentage of these cases over the number of deaths in each of the past 3 years;
2. whether the current usage of green burial services meets expectations, and whether policy objectives regarding green burial will be formulated;
3. what measures will be taken to further promote green burial to the public, and whether there is any plan to establish a registration system similar to that for organ donation to help convey a person's wish for a green burial to their family members; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s);
4. whether the Department has made reference to the modes of green burial in other countries (e.g. underwater cemetery and the creation of a memorial diamond in the United States; tree burial, spreading of ashes, sea burial and flower burial in Taiwan; and "zero burial" in Japan), with a view to expanding the scope of green burial services in Hong Kong to cater for the needs of local families; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s); and
5. the manpower and expenditure involved in implementing the Department's work plan for promoting the green burial services in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

1. The information sought is provided as follows -

Year \ Number of cases	Scattering of ashes			Percentage of total no. of deaths
	In Gardens of Remembrance*	At sea	Total	
2016	4 466	900	5 366	11.5%
2017	5 573	966	6 539	14.3%
2018	6 074	972	7 046	14.8%

*Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries.

2. The efforts we made over the years to promote green burial are bearing fruit. The number of green burial cases handled by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in 2018 accounted for about 13.3% of the total number of deaths in Hong Kong, as compared to 4.6% in 2010. Taking into account green burial cases handled by private cemeteries, the aggregate number in 2018 accounted for 14.8% of all the deaths that year.

Green burial remains an important aspect of Government's policy on post-death arrangements, as it is a more sustainable way to dispose of cremated human ashes given the scarce land resources in Hong Kong. We will continue to improve green burial facilities and services, engage community stakeholders for support and step up our publicity and public education efforts.

3. The Department has been promoting green burial through different channels, including Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, promotion videos, posters and banners, a mobile application, a dedicated website, collaboration with non-government organisations and promotional activities at senior exhibitions, etc. We launched a Green Burial Central Register (GBCR) in January 2019 to encourage the public to register their wish for green burial. The registration, free of charge, can be made online, by post, fax or email. The Department will continue with its efforts to promote green burial including the GBCR.
4. The Department follows closely the efficacy of green burial measures being pursued elsewhere. We maintain an open mind as to the specific mode of green burial that may be taken in Hong Kong with due regard to local circumstances and sentiments as well as technical and other relevant considerations.
5. In 2019-20, green burial promotion will be coordinated by a dedicated team, comprising 5 officers and supporting staff. The estimated provision earmarked for promoting green burial in 2019-20 is about \$17.0 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)123

(Question Serial No. 1068)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Department is planning to reduce by phases the number of litter containers (LCs) on streets to facilitate the implementation of a waste charging scheme in the future. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of LCs and recyclables collection bins (RBs) in each of the 18 districts in the territory in the past 3 years, and the estimated number of LCs and RBs upon implementation of the waste charging scheme;
2. the number of LCs purchased, the expenditure incurred and the number of LCs disposed of in each of the past 3 years;
3. the number of prosecutions against littering-related behaviour in each of the past 3 years; and
4. the details of and expenditure to be involved in the Government's plan to, apart from reducing the number of public LCs, ensure the deposits of only small refuse into these LCs upon implementation of the waste charging scheme.

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

1. Having regard to the objectives of facilitating waste reduction and resource recovery, the effective implementation of quantity-based municipal solid waste charging, and balancing the need of upholding environmental hygiene and cost-effectiveness in the use of public resources, the Steering Group on the Modification of Recycling and Refuse Collection Facilities in Public Places (the Steering Group) was set up in February 2016 under the chairmanship of the Secretary for the Environment to review the number, distribution and design of litter containers (LCs) and recycling bins (RBs) in public places.

The number of LCs and RBs provided by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) in each of the 18 districts in the territory in the past 3 years is provided as follows –

District	2016		2017		2018	
	LCs	RBs	LCs	RBs	LCs	RBs
Eastern	821	64	795	64	739	64
Wanchai	1 018	99	995	99	925	99
Central & Western	1 228	145	1 037	145	964	145
Southern	535	71	508	71	472	71
Islands	756	130	603	130	561	130
Kowloon City	975	69	843	69	784	69
Kwun Tong	848	46	833	44	775	44
Sham Shui Po	689	57	677	57	630	57
Wong Tai Sin	556	38	546	38	508	38
Yau Tsim Mong	1 229	125	1 108	123	1 030	123
Tai Po	1 031	159	647	159	602	162
North	558	185	451	185	419	185
Yuen Long	1 108	240	997	240	927	240
Tuen Mun	767	102	732	102	681	102
Sai Kung	1 005	201	987	201	918	198
Sha Tin	1 709	104	1 475	104	1 372	104
Kwai Tsing	766	57	752	57	699	57
Tsuen Wan	616	93	605	93	563	93
Total	16 215	1 985	14 591	1 981	13 569	1 981

Based on the recommendation of the Steering Group, FEHD is planning to reduce the number of LCs by 40% to 12 600 and increase the number of RBs by 40% to 2 800 by the end of 2019 making reference to the provision in 2014.

2. The number of LCs purchased in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was 5 415, 3 920 and 7 253 respectively and the expenditure incurred was about \$3.9 million, \$2.6 million and \$5.0 million in the respective years. FEHD does not keep a breakdown of the number of LCs disposed of in the relevant years.
3. FEHD issued 34 221, 39 239 and 43 360 fixed penalty notices against littering in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. The number of summonses issued in 2016, 2017 and 2018 was 278, 224 and 206 respectively.
4. FEHD will continue to enhance publicity and education on the proper use of LCs and RBs placed on streets, and take stringent enforcement actions against offenders for illegal disposal of waste. FEHD does not keep a breakdown of the expenditure incurred.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)124

(Question Serial No. 1688)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Programme (2) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, it is mentioned that the Department will roll out the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. the locations of all newly built, refurbished and redeveloped public toilets in the past 3 years; and
2. further to the previous question, the construction costs of the above projects.

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department built 13 new public toilets, refurbished 29 public toilets and reprovisioned 8 public toilets from 2016-17 to 2018-19. The information sought is given at the Annex.

- End -

Newly Built / Refurbished/ Re-provisioned Public Toilets (PTs) from 2016-17 to 2018-19

	District	Name of Public Toilet	Project Cost (\$ million)	Nature of Works
2016-17 (11 Public Toilets)				
1	Tuen Mun	Lung Kwu Tan Public Toilet	8.200	Newly Built PT
2	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange (Tuen Mun Bound) Public Toilet	7.800	Newly Built PT
3	Eastern	North Point Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	8.700	Re-provisioned PT
4	Wan Chai	Amoy Street Public Toilet	6.000	Re-provisioned PT
5	North	Fanling Station Road Public Toilet	1.484	Refurbished PT
6	Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Second Beach Carpark Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
7	Sha Tin	Fu Kin Street Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
8	Sha Tin	Shing Ho Road Public Toilet	8.000	Refurbished PT
9	Sha Tin	Wong Nai Tau Village Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
10	Tuen Mun	Fu Tei Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	1.700	Refurbished PT
11	Wan Chai	Canal Road Public Toilet	4.500	Refurbished PT
2017-18 (14 Public Toilets)				
12	Tai Po	Tat Wan Road Public Toilet	6.745	Newly Built PT
13	Tuen Mun	Siu Hong Public Toilet	7.220	Newly Built PT
14	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-bus Interchange (Kowloon Bound) Public Toilet	7.500	Newly Built PT
15	Yuen Long	Tin Fuk Road Public Toilet	7.100	Newly Built PT
16	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Tsz Tin Road Public Toilet	1.500	Re-provisioned PT
17	Central and Western	Hatton Road Public Toilet	6.152	Refurbished PT
18	North	Tai Long Public Toilet	2.324	Refurbished PT
19	Sai Kung	Sha Kok Mei Public Toilet (I)	1.958	Refurbished PT
20	Sai Kung	Yi Chun Street Public Toilet	3.078	Refurbished PT
21	Sha Tin	Hin Tin Street Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
22	Sham Shui Po	Tonkin Street Public Toilet	3.728	Refurbished PT

	District	Name of Public Toilet	Project Cost (\$ million)	Nature of Works
23	Southern	Shek O Village Public Toilet	4.000	Refurbished PT
24	Wan Chai	Bowen Road Public Toilet	2.616	Refurbished PT
25	Wan Chai	Hing Fat Street Public Toilet	7.287	Refurbished PT
2018-19* (25 Public Toilets)				
26	Islands	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	8.000	Newly Built PT
27	Islands	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.600	Newly Built PT
28	Islands	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.500	Newly Built PT
29	Islands	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.400	Newly Built PT
30	Islands	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet #	13.300	Newly Built PT
31	North	Ho Sheung Heung Public Toilet (III)	6.437	Newly Built PT
32	Sai Kung	Duckling Hill Public Toilet	5.950	Newly Built PT
33	Central and Western	Centre Street Public Toilet	Project cost of the PT is subsumed under the construction cost of Centre Street Market West Block at \$28.646 million under West Island Line Project of the Highways Department. Cost breakdown for the PT is not available.	Reprovisioned PT
34	North	Siu Hang San Tsuen Public Toilet	4.670	Reprovisioned PT
35	North	Wa Shan Tsuen Public Toilet	4.160	Reprovisioned PT
36	Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	4.142	Reprovisioned PT
37	Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	20.000	Reprovisioned PT
38	Central and Western	Belcher's Street Public Toilet	5.300	Refurbished PT
39	Central and Western	Exchange Square Public Toilet	3.900	Refurbished PT
40	Eastern	Tung Hei Road Public Toilet	9.200	Refurbished PT
41	North	Kam Tsin (North) Public Toilet	3.890	Refurbished PT
42	North	Wu Kau Tan Public Toilet	3.480	Refurbished PT
43	Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Government Offices Public Toilet	2.900	Refurbished PT
44	Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street Public Toilet	10.899	Refurbished PT

	District	Name of Public Toilet	Project Cost (\$ million)	Nature of Works
45	Southern	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital Public Toilet	1.914	Refurbished PT
46	Tai Po	Tai Po Plaza Public Toilet	3.311	Refurbished PT
47	Tuen Mun	Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	3.870	Refurbished PT
48	Wan Chai	Moreton Terrace Public Toilet	3.998	Refurbished PT
49	Yau Tsim	Battery Street Public Toilet	6.160	Refurbished PT
50	Yuen Long	Wing Ping Tsuen Public Toilet	5.080	Refurbished PT

* Up to 8 March 2019

Located at Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)125

(Question Serial No. 1707)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Programme (2) of this Head, the Government indicates that it will roll out the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases. According to Miss Vivian LAU, the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene, the Department will set up “deep cleansing public toilet teams” in various districts to step up inspection and maintain the hygiene of public toilets. Please advise on:

1. the number of staff comprised in “deep cleansing public toilet teams” in various districts; and
2. the details of the Government’s employment of manpower and the estimated amount of resources required after setting up these teams.

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

To improve the cleansing condition of public toilets and to relieve the workload of toilet attendants, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has allocated additional resources to procure the services of dedicated deep cleansing teams starting from March 2019 for toilets with a high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots. In general, each deep cleansing team comprises 1 supervisor-cum-driver and 4 cleansing workmen. The Department plans to extend such services to all public toilets when respective street cleansing services contracts are renewed at an estimated expenditure of about \$60 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)126

(Question Serial No. 3066)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the deployment of manpower and the costs and expenditure of the Cleansing Sections of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please inform this Committee of the present scope of work of the Cleansing Sections of the Department and the contractors in various districts as well as the costs and expenditure involved, including:

- (a) the number of in-house cleansing workers (day shift);
- (b) the number of in-house cleansing workers (night shift);
- (c) the number of outsourced cleansing workers (day shift);
- (d) the number of outsourced cleansing workers (night shift);
- (e) the daily average total amount of refuse collected in the service areas of the Department (day shift);
- (f) the daily average total amount of refuse collected in the service areas of the Department (night shift);
- (g) the daily average total amount of refuse collected in the service areas of the contractors (day shift);
- (h) the daily average total amount of refuse collected in the service areas of the contractors (night shift);
- (i) the names of the contractors;
- (j) the prices of the outsourced service contracts awarded;
- (k) the estimated service prices set out in the tenders for the outsourced service contracts;
- (l) whether the prices offered are the lowest among all tenders received in the tendering exercise;
- (m) the committed wages paid to the cleansing workers under the outsourced service contracts awarded; and
- (n) the respective service areas of the contractors and the Department (please provide the relevant map(s)).

(please set out the information in the table below)

New Territories	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
Kwai Tsing District														
North District														
Sai Kung District														
Sha Tin District														
Tai Po District														
Tsuen Wan District														
Tuen Mun District														
Yuen Long District														

Kowloon	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
Kowloon City District														
Kwun Tong District														
Sham Shui Po District														
Wong Tai Sin District														
Mong Kok District														
Yau Tsim District														

Hong Kong Island	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
Islands District														
Central & Western District														
Eastern District														
Southern District														
Wan Chai District														

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1038)

Reply:

- (a)-(d) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and its contractors provide public cleansing services including street sweeping, street washing, gully emptying, waste collection and other public cleansing services such as recyclable collection, shoreline cleansing and desludging services, etc. The number of in-house cleansing workmen and outsourced cleansing workmen engaged in public cleansing services with breakdown by district is provided at Annex I. Further breakdown by working shift is not available.
- (e)-(h) FEHD and its contractors are responsible for collection of household waste. The amount of refuse collected by in-house staff and contractors is provided at Annex II. Further breakdown by working shift is not available.
- (i), (j) & (n) The information of the name of the successful tenderer, nature, duration and contract value of non-public works outsourced contracts awarded by FEHD involving employment of non-skilled workers is uploaded onto the website of the Government Logistics Department:
https://www.gldpcms.gov.hk/etb_prod/jsp_public/sm/ssm00407r.jsp
- Service areas of the contracts awarded are stated in the Contract Award Notices of the above website. Maps showing the service areas of the contracts are included in relevant tender documents if required.
- (k) It is not appropriate to disclose the required information as it would compromise FEHD's position in the tendering exercises.
- (l) Of the street cleansing service contracts awarded in the last 3 years, about 60% of them offered a price which was the lowest among the tenders received.
- (m) For the public cleansing contracts in force as at 31 December 2018, the average monthly wages of the non-skilled workers ranged from \$8,556 to \$15,200.

- End -

In-house and Outsourced Cleansing Workmen

District	Number of in-house cleansing workmen	Number of outsourced cleansing workmen
Central & Western	82	635
Eastern	85	352
Southern	86	209
Wan Chai	81	506
Kowloon City	76	433
Kwun Tong	55	374
Sham Shui Po	94	459
Wong Tai Sin	46	195
Mong Kok	61	408
Yau Tsim	107	291
Kwai Tsing	94	287
North	204	486
Sai Kung	138	344
Sha Tin	145	406
Tai Po	143	286
Tsuen Wan	86	340
Tuen Mun	129	268
Yuen Long	193	556
Islands	151	271
Cross-district	5	262

Amount of Refuse Collected by FEHD

District	Amount of refuse collected by in-house staff (in tonnes)	Amount of refuse collected by cleansing contractors (in tonnes)
Central & Western	36 644	66 056
Eastern	49 826	75 551
Southern	74 252	6 393
Wan Chai	-	83 589
Kowloon City	-	96 820
Kwun Tong	-	156 869
Sham Shui Po	80 892	43 857
Wong Tai Sin	-	101 591
Mong Kok	296	94 132
Yau Tsim	35 975	52 594
Kwai Tsing	38 950	81 694
North	60 326	49 548
Sai Kung	54 554	61 847
Sha Tin	51 034	109 801
Tai Po	-	87 712
Tsuen Wan	-	97 465
Tuen Mun	-	142 360
Yuen Long	-	216 794
Islands	11 131	41 821

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)127

(Question Serial No. 3071)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In relation to the operation of refuse collection points (RCPs) and refuse collection vehicles (RCVs), please advise this Committee in tabular form on:

- 1) the number of daily journeys required by all RCPs managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) for:
 - i) compaction type RCV;
 - ii) demountable RCV; and
 - iii) grab lorry,and also the reason(s) for and the number of delayed and cancelled journeys in the past 5 years;
- 2) the gross floor area, the design refuse collection capacity and the actual monthly average amount of refuse collection as at February 2019 for each of the RCPs (including village-type RCPs) in the territory over the past 5 years;
- 3) the names of contractors, contract period, manpower deployment (by the number of foreman, attendant and general cleaner) and facilities of all RCPs in the territory;
- 4) the service areas of future in-situ reprovisioned off-street RCPs, non in-situ reprovisioned off-street RCPs and newly built off-street RCPs in a map; and
- 5) the service areas of all existing RCPs in a map.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1043)

Reply:

- 1) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep the information sought.

- 2) Approximate areas of permanent off-street and village-type refuse collection points (RCPs) and their estimated daily amount of refuse collected are provided at Annexes I and II respectively. Existing RCPs were set up at different times in the past to meet the needs of the local community, with regard to land availability. The Department does not set refuse handling capacity for each RCP.
- 3) Generally speaking, permanent off-street RCPs under the management of the Department are provided with 1 attendant in each work shift. Newly built RCPs are equipped with water scrubber systems, vehicle exhaust extraction systems, mechanical ventilation systems, toilets, changing and storage facilities. The Department will consider the provision of mobile refuse compactor in RCPs on operational need and where the site situation permits. Information of the current street cleansing contractors (which provide RCP and other cleansing services) in each district is provided at Annex III.
- 4&5) RCPs receive household waste from nearby residential developments delivered either by the public or private waste collectors, and also street waste collected by the Department's street sweepers. There is no defined service area for each RCP.

- End -

List of Permanent Off-street Public Refuse Collection Points (RCPs)

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Central and Western	Shek Tong Tsui RCP	430	19
Central and Western	In Ku Lane RCP	364	12
Central and Western	Man Kat Street RCP	360	35
Central and Western	Smithfield Municipal Services Building RCP	160	25
Central and Western	Third Street RCP	58	6
Central and Western	Lan Kwai Fong RCP	312	30
Central and Western	Sai Ying Pun Market RCP	140	4
Central and Western	Gage Street RCP	209	8
Central and Western	Arbuthnot Road RCP	57	2
Central and Western	Lok Ku Road RCP	29	10
Central and Western	Queensway Plaza RCP	20	3
Central and Western	Sheung Wan Municipal Services Building RCP	210	21
Central and Western	Centre Street RCP	180	8
Central and Western	Peak Galleria RCP	70	2
Central and Western	Robinson Road RCP	56	2
Central and Western	Kennedy Road RCP	22	2
Wan Chai	Sing Woo Road RCP	304	16
Wan Chai	Cross Lane RCP	179	25
Wan Chai	Sam Pan Street RCP	480	20
Wan Chai	Luard Road RCP	224	33
Wan Chai	Paterson Street RCP	171	15
Wan Chai	Lockhart Road RCP	167	30

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Wan Chai	Star Street RCP	151	3
Wan Chai	Gloucester Road RCP	104	47
Wan Chai	Shiu Fai Terrace RCP	183	3
Wan Chai	Wing Hing Street RCP	169	20
Eastern	Tanner Road RCP	435	6
Eastern	Tung Hei Road RCP	389	11
Eastern	Hing Man Street RCP	364	15
Eastern	Cheung Lee Street RCP	280	2
Eastern	Sheung On Street RCP	85	2
Eastern	Java Road RCP	170	20
Eastern	Kam Wa Street RCP	104	7
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Street RCP	98	7
Eastern	Oil Street RCP	83	10
Eastern	Quarry Bay Market RCP	70	6
Eastern	Mansion Street RCP	68	4
Eastern	Marble Road RCP	101	4
Southern	Shek O RCP	385	4
Southern	Tin Wan Close RCP	127	5
Southern	Apleichau Municipal Services Building RCP	110	5
Southern	Stanley Beach Road RCP	85	5
Southern	Repulse Bay RCP	85	1
Southern	Tsung Man Street RCP	78	9
Southern	Lee Nam Road RCP	69	2
Islands	Ngan Shu Street RCP	195	3
Islands	Cheung Tung Road RCP	187	2
Islands	Vehicle Clearance Plaza RCP	485	1
Yau Tsim	Parkes Street RCP	372	28
Yau Tsim	Market Street RCP	280	10
Yau Tsim	Auto Plaza RCP	220	14
Yau Tsim	Kimberley Street RCP	219	25
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Street RCP	162	14
Yau Tsim	Man Cheong Street RCP	160	5
Yau Tsim	Minden Row RCP	127	15
Mong Kok	Bedford Road RCP	379	12
Mong Kok	Dundas Street RCP	170	46

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Mong Kok	Portland Street RCP	156	13
Mong Kok	Nelson Street RCP	251	11
Mong Kok	Anchor Street RCP	212	13
Mong Kok	Cheung Wong Road RCP	201	8
Mong Kok	Nullah Road RCP	158	16
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market RCP	75	16
Mong Kok	Yu Chau Street RCP	131	23
Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street (Flower Market Road) RCP	90	15
Mong Kok	Mong Kok Road RCP	334	20
Sham Shui Po	Pei Ho Street RCP	266	16
Sham Shui Po	Cheung Wah Street RCP	420	18
Sham Shui Po	Un Chau Street RCP	410	16
Sham Shui Po	Fa Po Street RCP	210	2
Sham Shui Po	Yee Kuk Street RCP	250	15
Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street RCP	206	16
Sham Shui Po	Cassia Road RCP	129	4
Sham Shui Po	King Lam Street RCP	78	2
Sham Shui Po	Cheung Shun Street RCP	74	3
Sham Shui Po	Lai Wan Market RCP	20	12
Kowloon City	Ma Tau Kok Road RCP	430	10
Kowloon City	Sung On Street RCP	350	8
Kowloon City	Baptist University Road RCP	299	2
Kowloon City	Tung Tsing Road RCP	197	6
Kowloon City	Hok Yuen Street RCP	228	2
Kowloon City	Kwei Chow Street RCP	222	5
Kowloon City	Lung Kong Road RCP	147	10
Kowloon City	Peace Avenue RCP	207	8
Kowloon City	Kowloon City RCP	205	12
Kowloon City	Cheung Ning Street RCP	266	20
Kowloon City	Kowloon City Complex RCP	184	10
Kowloon City	Baker Street RCP	170	16
Kowloon City	Shek Ku Lung Road RCP	100	9
Kowloon City	On Ching Road RCP	130	2

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Kowloon City	Broadcast Drive RCP	89	2
Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue RCP	68	6
Kowloon City	Man Wan Road RCP	99	3
Kowloon City	Yan Fung Street RCP	120	3
Wong Tai Sin	Yi Lun Street RCP	220	18
Wong Tai Sin	Yan Oi RCP	150	1
Wong Tai Sin	Sheung Fung Street Market RCP	392	10
Wong Tai Sin	Yuk Wah Crescent RCP	154	5
Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Village RCP	193	5
Wong Tai Sin	Tung Tai Lane RCP	97	1
Kwun Tong	Lei Yue Mun RCP	294	2
Kwun Tong	Yuet Wah Street RCP	242	5
Kwun Tong	Kei Yip Lane RCP	185	1
Kwun Tong	Ting On Street RCP	71	4
Kwun Tong	Lai Yip Street RCP	136	1
Kwun Tong	Hong Ning Road RCP	115	2
Kwun Tong	Shung Yan Street RCP	259	10
Kwun Tong	Wan Hon Street RCP	107	2
Kwai Tsing	Hing Shing Road RCP	260	2
Kwai Tsing	Tai Yuen Street RCP	175	less than 1
Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road RCP	170	2
Kwai Tsing	Kwai Shun Street RCP	140	2
Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street RCP	116	2
Kwai Tsing	Wing Kin Road RCP	118	1
Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road RCP	100	1
Tsuen Wan	RCP at Chak Yan Road at Penny's Bay	285	1
Tsuen Wan	Mei Wan Street RCP	374	1
Tsuen Wan	Luen Yan Street RCP	183	19
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Market Street RCP	170	20
Tsuen Wan	Heung Che Street RCP	168	19
Tsuen Wan	Hoi Hing Road Refuse Collection Point	564	1
Tuen Mun	Tsing Hoi Circuit RCP (Area 37B)	170	9
Tuen Mun	Tseng Choi Street RCP (Area 4B)	170	7
Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road RCP (Area 12)	169	1

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Tuen Mun	Yan Ching Street RCP	146	12
Tuen Mun	Tat Yan Square RCP (Area 10B)	121	3
Tuen Mun	Tsing Yeung Circuit RCP (Area 9N)	126	1
Tuen Mun	Tseng Choi Street RCP (Area 4C)	118	less than 1
Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street RCP (Area 9)	229	1
Tuen Mun	Castle Peak Beach RCP	86	less than 1
Tuen Mun	Wu Shan Road RCP (Area 44)	703	1
Yuen Long	Yan Lok Square RCP	170	19
Yuen Long	Tai Tong Road RCP	170	20
Yuen Long	Tai Kiu RCP	170	16
Yuen Long	Kam Cheung Square RCP	170	16
Yuen Long	Tung Tai Street RCP	125	16
Yuen Long	Fung Kwan Street RCP	120	16
Yuen Long	Ping Shun Street RCP	411	11
Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point RCP	180	5
Yuen Long	RCP at Cargo Area inside Shenzhen Western Corridor Co-location of Boundary Crossing Facilities	140	6
North	Fu Hing Street RCP	298	17
North	Luen Fat Street RCP	246	15
North	On Lok Tsuen RCP	117	8
Tai Po	Plover Cove Road RCP	102	5
Tai Po	Kwong Fuk Square RCP	100	16
Tai Po	Evergreen Court RCP	350	6
Tai Po	Yan Hing Street RCP	165	9
Tai Po	Dai Kwai Street RCP	162	1
Sha Tin	Shing Ho Road RCP	135	6
Sha Tin	Yuen Chau Kok Road RCP	129	3
Sha Tin	Cheung Lek Mei Street RCP	116	2

District	Name	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (tonnes)
Sha Tin	Chik Fai Street Tai Wai RCP	55	4
Sha Tin	Siu Lek Yuen Road RCP	47	3
Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Road RCP	147	3
Sai Kung	Yi Chun Street RCP	195	10
Sai Kung	Wan Lung Road permanent RCP	155	1
Sai Kung	Fuk Man Road RCP	150	6
Sai Kung	Tui Min Hoi Road RCP	117	less than 1
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Second Beach RCP	85	less than 1

List of Village Type Public Refuse Collection Points

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Islands	Next to Tai Long Wan Village Public Toilet, Lantau Island	4	110
Islands	Near Bellevue Garden, Cheung Chau Peak Road, Cheung Chau	5	360
Islands	Back of Cheung Chau Police Station, Hospital Road, Cheung Chau	5	730
Islands	Near Cheung Lee Garden, Siu Kawi Wan Road, Cheung Chau	7	290
Islands	Near No. 4 Chung Hing Pun Shan Road, Cheung Chau	6	360
Islands	Near Fuk Lee Farm, Cheung Chau Peak Road, Cheung Chau	8	220
Islands	At junction of Hillside Road and Cheung Chau Peak Road, Cheung Chau	2	550
Islands	Opposite to 18 Hung Shing Yeh, Yung Shue Wan, Lamma Island	18	220
Islands	Tai Shek Hau Pun Shan Road, Cheung Chau	18	290
Islands	Near Cheung Chau Playgorund, Kwun Yam Wan Road, Cheung Chau	5	580
Islands	Near Lan Yuen, Cheung Chau Peak Road, Cheung Chau	8	730

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Islands	Opposite to No. 92 Pak She San Tsuen, Cheung Chau	3	360
Islands	Near Lung Tsai Tsuen Sitting-out Area, Cheung Chau	3	1 090
Islands	Lutheran 1st Village, Cheung Chau	11	440
Islands	Nect to Pak She Street Public Toilet, Cheung Chau	9	2 910
Islands	Near No. 68, Cheung Chau Peak Road, Cheung Chau	4	2 550
Islands	Opposite to Sai Yuen, Sai Wan, Peak Road West, Cheung Chau	8	910
Islands	Near the Alliance Bible Seminary, Cheung Chau Peak Road, Cheung Chau	5	730
Islands	Near Tinford Garden, Cheung Chau Peak Road, Cheung Chau	5	730
Islands	Tsan Tuen Road, Sai Wan, Cheung Chau	16	1 090
Islands	Wang Lung Hang, Tung Chung, Lantau Island	12	150
Islands	Near 3 Peak Road, Cheung Chau	3	730
Islands	Opposite to 23D Yung Shue Wan Main Street, Lamma Island	18	1 820
Islands	Near Lamppost VA1601, Upper Keung Shan, Lantau Island	8	100

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Islands	Near Lamppost FC1355, Tai Tei Tong, Mui Wo, Lantau Island	9	330
Islands	Near Lamppost FC1314, Pak Ngan Heung, Mui Wo, Lantau Island	9	110
Islands	Near Lamppost FC1314, Pak Ngan Heung, Mui Wo, Lantau Island	9	150
Islands	Tung Wan, Shek Pik, Lantau Island	15	100
Islands	Ngong Ping Bus Terminus Public Toilet (Near Lamppost P12)	9	600
Islands	Near 155A Tong Fuk Village, Lantau Island	12	440
Islands	Near Lamppost VC2196, Shek Tsai Po Street, Tai O	3	70
Islands	Next to 4 Kiu King Street, Peng Chau	14	220
Islands	Opposite to 484C Nam Wan, Peng Chau	12	220
Islands	Opposite to 19C Nam Wan, Peng Chau	2	220
Islands	Nam Wan Shan Tsuen, Peng Chau	16	150
Islands	Near 5A Wing Lung Street, Peng Chau	21	220
Islands	Next to Tung Wan Barbecue Site, Peng Chau	17	220
Islands	Near Lamppost FC2507, Pa Mei, Tung Chung, Lantau Island	20	2 500
Kwai Tsing	San Kwai Street, Kwai Chung	20	1 000

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Kwai Tsing	Kau Wa Keng San Tsuen, Lai King Hill Road, Kwai Chung	15	1 300
Kwai Tsing	At side of Greenknoll Court, Castle Peak Road	15	370
Kwai Tsing	Near Chung Shan Terrace, Castle Peak Road 5.5 m	15	110
Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road, Tsing Yi	15	600
Kwai Tsing	Tsing King Road, Tsing Yi (Near Maritime Square)	15	1 000
Kwai Tsing	Tai Wong Ha Resite Village Car Park, Tsing Yi	15	2 300
Kwai Tsing	Near Rife Range Association, Cheung Hang Village	15	110
Kwai Tsing	Near Pump Station, Cheung Hang Village	15	110
Kwai Tsing	Tsing Fai Sun Tsuen Vehicle Parking Space, Junction of Fung Shue Wo Road and Tsing Sum Street, Tsing Yi	15	1 110
Kwai Tsing	Near Reservoir, Cheung Hang Village	15	40
Kwai Tsing	Chung Mei Lo Uk Village Car Park, Tsing Yi	44	2 300
Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yu Street, Tsing Yi	30	1 100
Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yu New Village Car Park, Tsing Yi	20	900
Kwai Tsing	Shing Mun Road, Kwai Chung	6	370
Kwai Tsing	Near Pump Station, Lower Shing Mun Village	6	110

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Kwai Tsing	Near Cheung Hang Road, O'Pui Shan Boy's Home	6	180
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Ting Kau, Ting Kau (near LP BC 1137)	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Ting Kau, Ting Kau (near LP BC0109)	12	500
Tsuen Wan	Route Twisk (Near Chuen Lung)	9	960
Tsuen Wan	Fu Yung Shan Road (Near Chuk Lam Sim Monastery)	6	600
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Tsing Lung Tau, Tsing Lung Tau	9	300
Tsuen Wan	Fu Yung Shan Road Fu Yung Shan San Tsuen	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Hoi Pa Village(near Cheung Pei Shan Road)	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Hoi Pa Village South Terrace, Ma Sim Pai Road	9	300
Tsuen Wan	Ka Loon Tsuen, Castle Peak Road-Tsing Lung Tau, Tsing Lung Tau	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Junction at Lei Shu Road and Sheung Kwai Chung Tsuen Road	16	480
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Lo Wai Road (Adjacent to Ming Fat Store)	24	170
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Main Street Village East, Ma Wan Rural Committee Road	12	800

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Main Street Village North, Ma Wan Rural Committee Road, Ma Wan	12	800
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Main Street Village South, Ma Wan	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Ma Sim Pai Road (Opposite Sai Lau Kok Resite Village)	18	300
Tsuen Wan	Muk Min Ha Tsuen, Fu Yung Shan Road (Near Car Park)	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Sham Tseng, Sham Tseng (Near Anglers' Bay)	9	300
Tsuen Wan	Pak Tin Pa Tsuen, Ma Sim Pai Road	12	600
Tsuen Wan	Hill Top Road	12	140
Tsuen Wan	Sam Tung Uk Resite Village (near Sam Tung Uk Road)	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Tsing Lung Tau (Opposite Sea Crest Villa Phase 4)	12	400
Tsuen Wan	Sham Tseng Village, Sham Tseng Tsuen Road, Sham Tseng	9	150
Tsuen Wan	Wo Yi Hop, Shing Mun Road	9	300
Tsuen Wan	Ting Fung Street	24	800
Tsuen Wan	Ting Kwok Street	24	800
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road-Ting Kau, Ting Kau, (near LP BC 1168)	9	150
Tsuen Wan	Castle Peak Road - Ting Kau (near LP BC0143)	9	200
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Lo Wai Road (near LP BC2134)	9	1 000

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Tung Wo Street (near LP BC2134)	6	200
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Tung Wo Street (near LP FB8506)	6	300
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Tung Wo Street (near LP FB8510)	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Shing Mun Lane, Tsuen Wan (near LP AC4832)	9	400
Tsuen Wan	Yau Kom Tau Village, Po Fung Road, Yau Kom Tau	9	500
Tsuen Wan	Yau Ma Hom Road, near Fu Uk Road	20	1 000
Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai, Lo Wai Road, Tsuen Wan (near LP VC0034)	6	150
Tsuen Wan	Vista Cove, 132 Castle Peak Road-Tsing Lung Tau ((Near Bayside Villa Substation)	9	500
Tsuen Wan	Junction at Sheung Kwai Tsuen Road and Tai Pak Tin Tsuen Road	17	270
Tsuen Wan	Lung Yue Road, Tsing Lung Tau (Near Toilet at Lung Yue Road)	12	700
Tsuen Wan	Ma Sim Pai Road (near Hoi Pa Northeast Terrace)	18	300
Tuen Mun	Shun Fung Wai	27	780
Tuen Mun	Shui Tong Road (Reservoir Road) near store	18	310
Tuen Mun	Chung Uk Tsuen (1)	18	860
Tuen Mun	Lam Tei Market	18	2 220
Tuen Mun	Fu Tei Chung Tsuen, Hing Ping Road	12	300

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tuen Mun	Fu Tei Sheung Tsuen near Aqua Privy	10	100
Tuen Mun	Chung Wong Toi	17	640
Tuen Mun	Wong Ka Wai, Area 36B	18	600
Tuen Mun	Chung Shan, San Hing Tsuen (1)	18	1 150
Tuen Mun	San Sau Street, Leung Tin Tsuen	32	4 090
Tuen Mun	Old Cafeteria Beach	18	600
Tuen Mun	So Kwun Wat Rd. underneath Tuen Mun Rd.	18	380
Tuen Mun	So Kwun Wat Tsuen Road	18	410
Tuen Mun	Lee Uk Tsuen, So Kwun Wat	18	1 550
Tuen Mun	Kar Wo Lei	18	450
Tuen Mun	Yick Yuen, Castle Peak Road	28	680
Tuen Mun	Siu Lam San Tsuen	18	150
Tuen Mun	Tuen Tsz Wai	28	1 750
Tuen Mun	Near Salted Fish Factory, Siu Lam Tsuen	18	170
Tuen Mun	Lune On San Tsuen (East), Tai Lam Chung	18	420
Tuen Mun	Tai Lam Chung Tsuen, Tai Lam Chung	18	140
Tuen Mun	Wong Uk Tsuen.	28	170
Tuen Mun	Luen On San Tsuen (West), Tai Lam Chung	18	560
Tuen Mun	Near Barbecue Garden, Tsing Tai Road	18	670
Tuen Mun	Tin Sum San Tsuen, near playground	18	650
Tuen Mun	At side of river, San Hing Tsuen	18	1 600
Tuen Mun	Tsz Tin Tsuen at side of playground	18	540

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tuen Mun	Sai Hang Mei, Tsz Tin Tsuen	18	620
Tuen Mun	Yeung Siu Hang Tsuen	18	650
Tuen Mun	Yip Wong Road RCP, Tsing Shan Kau Hui	18	600
Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen near Fuk Yam School	28	100
Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen Road near Village Office	28	600
Tuen Mun	Lam Tei Bus Stop, Castle Peak Road	28	1 600
Tuen Mun	To Yuen Wai Fu Hang Road	18	640
Tuen Mun	Nim Wan Tsuen	28	970
Tuen Mun	At side of Castle Peak Villa, Lok Yi Street	28	870
Tuen Mun	Po Yuen, Castle Peak Road	28	1 260
Tuen Mun	Kei Lun Wai	28	1 070
Tuen Mun	Wong Yin Street near Shek Pei Tau Road	28	510
Tuen Mun	Tsing Shan Tsuen, Hing Choi Street	28	310
Tuen Mun	Tsing Chuen Wai	18	2 700
Tuen Mun	Siu Sau Tsuen, Castle Peak Road	18	220
Tuen Mun	Entrance of Marine Police Quarter, Siu Lam	28	600
Tuen Mun	Tsz Tin Road	18	750
Yuen Long	Tai To Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu	8	40
Yuen Long	beside Shek Po Road Car Park, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post FA1053)	12	960

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Hung Shui Kiu Main Street, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post FA4192)	12	700
Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post GD0595)	16	1 990
Yuen Long	Coronet Court, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post FB 0535)	20	1 990
Yuen Long	Tseung Kong Wai, Ha Tsuen (near lamp post VD 4198)	12	1 000
Yuen Long	Ha Mei Road, Ha Tsuen (near lamp post FA8792)	12	1 000
Yuen Long	Sha Chau Lei Tsuen Refuse Collection Point, Ping Ha Road, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post VA5950)	12	600
Yuen Long	Fui Sha Wai, Hung Shui Kiu, Castle Peak Road - Ping Shan (near lamp post VA5652)	12	980
Yuen Long	Tai To Tsuen, Fui Sha Wai South Road, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post FB5411)	12	440
Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu (near lamp post VG1804)	12	980
Yuen Long	San Sang Tsuen Inner RCP, Tin Ha Road (near lamp post V0229)	12	300
Yuen Long	Entrance of San Sang Tsuen, Tin Ha Road (near lamp post FB9105)	10	1 080

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	beside Ha Mei San Tsuen Public Toilet, Ping Shan (near lamp post FC0176)	12	1 150
Yuen Long	beside Ping Shan San Tsuen Public Toilet, Ping Shan (near lamp post FB0330)	16	1 800
Yuen Long	Hang Tau Tsuen, Ping Shan (near Aqua Privy)(near lamp post V6298)	20	1 660
Yuen Long	beside Tong Fong Tsuen Public Toilet, Ping Shan (near lamp post FB9220)	20	1 100
Yuen Long	Ping Hing Lane, Ping Shan (near lamp post FA8972)	12	950
Yuen Long	Ping Shan Chuk Lam Road, Ping Shan (near lamp post V6307)	12	810
Yuen Long	Deep Bay Road, Lau Fau Shan (near Pak Nai Village Office)(near lamp post H1835)	12	270
Yuen Long	Ngau Hom Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan (near lamp post FA6975)	12	800
Yuen Long	San Hing Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan (near lamp post FB9188)	12	310
Yuen Long	Fung Kong Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan (near lamp post BD2055)	12	600
Yuen Long	Nim Wan Road, Ha Pak Nai (near lamp post FA0889)	20	410
Yuen Long	Fu Tso Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan (near lamp post H2840)	12	150

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Yeung Uk Tsuen, Yuen Long (near lamp post FC0853)	12	600
Yuen Long	Tsz Tong Tsuen, Yuen Long (near lamp post U8313)	12	1 070
Yuen Long	Tai Hong Wai, Kam Tin Road, Kam Tin (near lamp post FB5702)	40	450
Yuen Long	Tung Wui Road, Kam Tin (near lamp post AD7086)	32	470
Yuen Long	Yau Shin Street, Shek Tong Tsuen (near lamp post FC0628)	25	610
Yuen Long	Shan Pui Chung Hau Tsuen, Shan Pui Ho East Road	15	670
Yuen Long	Shing Uk Tsuen, Wang Chau	8	600
Yuen Long	Hung Mo Kiu, Castle Peak Road	12	400
Yuen Long	Shan Pui Hung Tin Tsuen	20	750
Yuen Long	Chui Tung Lane, Shan Pui Tsuen	20	800
Yuen Long	beside Nam Bin Wai Public Toilet YL-35A&B, Yuen Long Kau Hui Road	18	950
Yuen Long	Opposite to Fuk Tak Tong, Nam Bin Wai	8	600
Yuen Long	Opposite to 8D Tsoi Uk Tsuen	8	410
Yuen Long	beside Aqua Privy YL-41, Wong Uk Tsuen	8	870
Yuen Long	Shui Tsiu San Tsuen (1)	8	1 200
Yuen Long	Shui Tsiu San Tsuen (2)	8	370
Yuen Long	Hung Tso Tin Tsuen	8	670
Yuen Long	Nam Hang Pai	10	870

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Tai Tong Garden, Nam Hang Pai	12	950
Yuen Long	Wong Nai Tun Tsuen	12	950
Yuen Long	beside Tai Shu Ha Road West Public Toilet	8	400
Yuen Long	Tai Kei Leng Po Chu Yuen	10	600
Yuen Long	Tai Tong Road Roundabout, Tai Tong Tsuen	10	870
Yuen Long	Ha Yau Tin Tsuen	10	870
Yuen Long	Muk Kiu Tau Tsuen	14	670
Yuen Long	Shan Ha Road (欖口 園)	8	1 180
Yuen Long	Pak Sha Tsuen, Kung Um Road	8	670
Yuen Long	Shan Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long	14	870
Yuen Long	Tin Lui Tsuen Yuen Long	10	670
Yuen Long	Ma Tin Pok, Yuen Long	18	1 220
Yuen Long	Chuk Yau Road, Ngau Tam Mei, near lamp post FA8539 (Sai Wah Sheung Road)	5	440
Yuen Long	Shek Wu Tong, Kam Sheung Road (near lamp post U8365)	15	2 050
Yuen Long	Opposite to Red Penny Restaurant, Kam Sheung Road (near lamp post U8395) Wing Lok Yuen	15	650
Yuen Long	Opposite to Kam Shui South Road, Kam Sheung Road (near lamp post U8408) Shui Tsan Tin Tsuen)	20	1 310

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Opposite to Timber Factory at Kong Ha Wai, Kam Sheung Road (near lamp post U8341)	20	750
Yuen Long	Shui Tau Tsuen Public Toilet, Shui Tau Tsuen (near lamp post V0037)	12	800
Yuen Long	Fan Kam Road, near lamp post FB3588	9	800
Yuen Long	Ngau Tam Mei Wai Tsai Tsuen	15	870
Yuen Long	Yau Mei San Tsuen, Castle Peak Road - Tam Mi	12	870
Yuen Long	Entrance of Tai Sang Wai Tsuen	20	500
Yuen Long	Low San Wai Tsuen, Castle Peak Road - Tam Mi	20	400
Yuen Long	Mai Po Tsuen, Castle Peak Road - Mai Po	12	800
Yuen Long	Merry Garden, Castle Peak Road - Tam Mi	20	700
Yuen Long	San Tam Road, Fung Kat Heung Road	20	400
Yuen Long	Castle Peak Road - San Tam, near lamp post FB9542	15	300
Yuen Long	San Tam Road, near lamp post FA8429	20	700
Yuen Long	Sam Tam Road, near Mission Hills, near lamp post FA8294	20	600
Yuen Long	San Tam Road, near lamp post FA9278	15	1 000

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Yuen Long	Opposite to Hong Kong Fire Services Department Fires Services Training School, Fan Kam Road, near lamp post FB3637 & P/YL-13	25	170
Yuen Long	Wing Ning Lei	20	2 100
Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road, near lamp post U8415	20	1 900
Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road, near lamp post U8424	15	1 400
Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road, near lamp post U8462	20	700
Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road, near lamp post FB4746	20	200
Yuen Long	Castle Peak Road - San Tin, San Tin (near Post Office)	10	950
Yuen Long	Tsing Lung Tsuen	10	670
Yuen Long	Near Mei Shing Kui, Pak Shek Au	10	270
Yuen Long	Near Wo Hing Yuen, Pak Shek Au	12	410
Yuen Long	Castle Peak Road - Chau Tau, Pak Shek Au	10	270
Yuen Long	Castle Peak Road - Chau Tau, San Tin	15	1 150
Yuen Long	Kam Shek Road RCP, Kam Tin	12	600
North	Tong Kung Leng	26	340
North	Tong Kung Leng	26	400
North	Lin Ma Hang	20	140
North	Fu Tei Pai	26	350
North	Sha Tau Kok Road Kwan Tei Village	20	890
North	Kai Leng Ng Uk Tsuen	17	500

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
North	Ping Kong San Tsuen, Ming Tak Toi	18	840
North	Tong Hang Tsuen	15	360
North	'Ping Yeung San Tsuen (near Ping Yeung Public School)	17	410
North	San Uk Tsuen	20	400
North	Sha Tau Kok Road Lung Yeuk Tau Hak Pai Chai	17	300
North	Queen's Hill, Kwan Tei, Sha Tau Kok	26	1 110
North	Kwai Tei North	20	200
North	Ping Che Vegetable Station	20	550
North	San Uk Ling, Man Kam To Road	24	350
North	Ping Che Road Hung Leng Bus Stop	20	470
North	Ping Che Road Hung Leng Bridge	20	440
North	Sha Tau Kok Road Hung Leng	20	1 200
North	Ha Shan Kai Wat	24	300
North	Ping Che Yuen Ha Tsuen	20	590
North	Lee Uk Tsuen, Ta Kwu Ling	17	470
North	Ta Kwu Ling, San Tsuen	12	350
North	Chow Tin Tsuen	7	320
North	Chuk Yuen Tsuen	42	240
North	Ling Shan Tsuen near Hospital	17	310
North	Ling Shan Tsuen near Vegetable Station	17	270
North	Mui Hau Tsuen	26	800
North	Sheung Shui Wai, Po Sheung Tsuen (near the Carpark)	20	300

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
North	Near Carpark, Po Sheung Tsuen, Sheung Shui Wai, Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road	20	1 200
North	II Near Carpark, Po Sheung Tsuen, Sheung Shui Wai, Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road	20	700
North	Po Lau Rd., Shek Tsai Leng	21	370
North	Kwu Tung Tin Sum Area	38	770
North	Lee Wah San Tsuen	12	470
North	Wu Kau Tang	3	250
North	Luk Keng Bridge	5	250
North	Nam Chung primary school	7	250
North	Ping Che Road near Baptist Garden	28	760
North	Ta Kwu Ling Rural Centre	28	1 360
North	biside fay lai sailingboat factory	20	300
North	Fanling Wai North	17	600
North	Fanling Wai (Middle section)	20	1 600
North	Ho Ka Yuen	20	600
North	Shek Chung Au	6	270
North	Sha Tau Kok Lin Ma Hang Rd, Tsoi Yuen Kok	14	1 240
North	Wo Hing Road Carpark (Near Wo Hop Shek Village)	20	1 500
North	Wo Hing Road Carpark (Near Wo Hing Tsuen)	20	1 500
North	Yin Kong Tsuen	18	990
North	Tsung Pak Long	11	240
North	Tai Tau Leng Tsuen	26	800
North	Lung Yeuk Tau, San Wai	12	670

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
North	Sha Tau Kok Road San Wai Barracks	20	340
North	Lau Shui Heung Road	18	450
North	Po Kat Tsai, Lau Shui Heung Road	26	482
North	Tung Kok Wai	15	660
North	Ma Wat Tsuen, Sui Wan Rd, Kwan Tei	20	550
North	Wing Ling Wai	49	1 090
North	Kam Tsin Tsuen (North)	20	1 500
North	Kam Tsin Tsuen (South)	20	600
North	Kwu Tung Tung Tong Farm	19	850
North	Kwu Tung Vegetable Station	20	470
North	Castle Peak Road (Kwu Tung), Kwu Tung	26	270
North	Ma Kam To Road/Shu Ling,Cheung Po Tau Tsuen	18	200
North	Ma Kam To Road/Shu Ling, Cheung Po Tau Tsuen	18	300
North	Sandy Ride Vegetable Station (Man Kam To Road Check Point)	38	110
North	Ho Sheung Heung San Tsuen	20	670
North	Ho Sheung Heung Old Village	21	470
North	Hung Kiu San Tsuen	18	400
North	Ma Kam To Road/Shu Ling,Cheung Po Tau Tsuen	6	350
North	Ta Kwu Ling Fung Wong Wu (near Ping Yuen River)	18	70

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
North	Sheung Shui Wai, Sheung Pak Tsuen	11	500
North	Tsung Pak Long Tsuen (North), Castle Peak Road – Kwu Tung	11	240
North	Fung Kong, Ho Sheung Heung Road	21	270
North	Ho Sheung Heung San Tsuen	11	110
North	Tin Kwong Po	10	300
North	Lo Wu Station Road	6	200
North	Sheung Shui Wai Ming Tak Tong	20	1 070
North	Near Tai Tau Leng Village Office, Tai Tau Leng	20	1 070
North	Pak Fuk Tsuen	20	1 000
North	Tsiu Keng Market	11	150
North	Chuk Tsai Hang, Tsiu Keng Ying Pun Tsuen	16	290
North	Hang Tau Luen On Bridge	20	150
North	Lung Yeuk Tau, Bridge No 1	7	400
Tai Po	Tai Po Road, Tai Po Kau (at side of lamp post CE2388)	18	710
Tai Po	Tai Po Wong Yi Au Road (inside Car Park and at side of lamp post no. BE1039)	17	640
Tai Po	Tai Po Road, Tai Po Kau (at side of lamp post CE1318)	17	600
Tai Po	68 Pan Chung Road (at the side of lamp post No. EA7555)	28	2 550
Tai Po	122 Kam Shan Road (at side of lamp post no. N6188)	28	1 200
Tai Po	Opposite to 8 Ting Lai Road	30	780

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tai Po	Opposite to Yue Kok Village Public Toilet	18	500
Tai Po	Opposite to Ha Hang Government Quarter	19	670
Tai Po	At the side of Sam Mun Tsai 74K bus stop	19	1 000
Tai Po	At the side of Sam Mun Tsai Pier	18	750
Tai Po	San Tau Kok Village. Tung Tsz Road (At side of lamp post no. GE0249)	58	1 860
Tai Po	Po Sam Pai, Ting Kok Road (opposite side of lamp post no. AE0643)	23	1 473
Tai Po	Ting Kok Village (opposite side of lamp post no. V1240)	18	840
Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Drive (at the side of lamp post no. EA7207)	36	1 370
Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Shui Wai Road (opposite to lamp post no. EB4750)	28	740
Tai Po	At side of lamp post no. N4542)	17	2 150
Tai Po	opposite to lamp post no. VA9212	21	200
Tai Po	Hang Ha Po Village (at side of lamp post no. VE1237)	18	540
Tai Po	Chung Uk Tsuen (at side of lamp post no. EB0517)	18	960

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tai Po	Tong Sheung Tsuen, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po, NT (at Lam Kam Road)	18	1 870
Tai Po	Tong Sheung Tsuen, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po, NT (opposite to Tong Min Tsuen Public Toilet)	18	500
Tai Po	San Tong, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po, NT (at Lam Kam Road)	18	960
Tai Po	Ping Long, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po, NT	18	390
Tai Po	Ma Po Mei, Lam Kam Road, Lam Tsuen Valley, Tai Po, NT	18	420
Tai Po	Tai Po Lai Chi Shan	18	1 100
Tai Po	Shek Kwu Lung Village(at side of lamp post no. EA7880)	18	1 460
Tai Po	Shan Tong New Village, Shan Tong Road, Tai Po,NT. (near L/P.:EA7150)	18	200
Tai Po	Lo Tsz Tin, Ting Kok Road (opposite side of lamp post no. AE0701	11	1 150
Tai Po	Tai Po Road,Tai Po Kau, Cheung Shue Tan (opposite to lamp post EB3689)	18	300
Tai Po	Tai Mei Tuk Road (At side of lamp post no. EA8280)	36	600

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tai Po	11 Ma Wo Road (at side of lamp post No. EA7788)	28	400
Tai Po	opposite to Ha Hang Village Public Toilet	20	670
Tai Po	Tung Tsz Shan Road (opposite side of lamp post no. EA9983)	17	300
Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Shui Wai Road (at the side of lamp post no. EB4750)	46	400
Tai Po	Tung Tsz Shan Road (opposite side of lamp post no. EA9990)	17	200
Tai Po	At the side of lamp post no. EB1913	18	200
Tai Po	San Wai Tsai Road (at the side of lamp post No. GE1558)	30	1 150
Tai Po	Fong Ma Po Village (at side of lamp post no. VE2560)	42	2 150
Tai Po	Tai Po Road, Tai Po Kau, Tsung Tsai Yuen (opposite to Tai Po Kau Garden)	9	240
Tai Po	Tai Po Road, Tai Po Kau, Lookout Link (opposite to lamp post EB8429)	11	100
Tai Po	At the side of lamp post no. EB2810	9	200
Tai Po	Mei Wu Road (at side of lamp post no. GE1457)	16	100
Tai Po	At side of lamp post no. N7085)	6	600
Tai Po	Tai Po Road, Tai Po Kau, Yin Tse Lane (at side of lamp post EC0689)	6	200

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Tai Po	Sai Sha Road (At side of lamp post no. VE8206)	32	1 260
Tai Po	Sai Sha Road (At side of lamp post no. N2468)	17	540
Tai Po	Hoi Ha Road (Opposite to lamp post no. EA0925)	17	100
Tai Po	Kong Tong Tsuen (At side of lamp post no. N2505)	23	300
Tai Po	Cheung Tai Road)(Opposite to lamp post no.GE0200)	9	345
Sha Tin	Tin Sam Street, Sha Tin	18	2 500
Sha Tin	Sheung Keng Hau, Hin Tin Street, Sha Tin	33	800
Sha Tin	Ha Keng Hau, Fu Kin Street, Sha Tin	33	3 110
Sha Tin	Hin Kwai Lane, Hin Tin, Sha Tin	33	900
Sha Tin	Chung Ling Road, Sha Tin	51	2 860
Sha Tin	Kwei Tei New Village, Sha Tin	18	370
Sha Tin	Pat Tsz Wo Village, Pat Tsz Wo Street, Sha Tin	18	400
Sha Tin	Seaview Villa, No.5800 Tai Po Road (Ma Liu Shui), Sha Tin	10	70
Sha Tin	Siu Lek Yuen South Yeuk, Kwong Sin Street, Sha Tin (Siu Lek Yuen Village)	18	1 000
Sha Tin	Ngau Pei Sha Street, Sha Tin (Near Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet)	32	1 110

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sha Tin	Tsok Pok Hang Village, Tsok Pok Hang Road, Sha Tin	18	300
Sha Tin	Heung Fan Liu New Village, Sha Tin	18	300
Sha Tin	San Tin Village, Chui Tin Street, Sha Tin	18	1 500
Sha Tin	Fo Tan Village, Shan Mei Street, Fo Tai	18	800
Sha Tin	Tai Wai New Village, Lower Shing Mun Road, Tai Wai, Sha Tin	18	1 160
Sha Tin	Sheung Wo Che Tsuen, Sha Tin	12	180
Sha Tin	A Kung Kok Fisherman's New Village, Sha Tin	8	1 150
Sha Tin	Wo Liu Hang Village, Wo Liu Hang Road, Sha Tin	8	100
Sha Tin	Lei Uk Tsuen, Sha Tin	18	500
Sha Tin	Ha Wo Che Tsuen, Sha Tin	12	180
Sha Tin	To Shek Street, Sha Tin	32	1 350
Sha Tin	Man Lam Road, Sha Tin	23	1 500
Sha Tin	Tung Lo Wan Road, Sha Tin	83	1 400
Sha Tin	Ha Kak Tin Village, Sha Tin	18	1 570
Sha Tin	Fung Shek Street, Sha Tin	18	480
Sha Tin	Tai Shui Hang Village, Sha Tin	28	2 500
Sha Tin	To Shek Street, Sha Tin (Near Chap Wai Kon Car Park)	32	1 420
Sha Tin	Tsang Tai Uk Village, Sha Tin	18	950

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sha Tin	Siu Lek Yuen South Yeuk, Kwong Sin Street, Sha Tin (Opposite to Kwong Yuen Estate)	18	950
Sha Tin	Tolo Highway, Ma Liu Shui, Sha Tin (Near Sewage Pump No.3 at Pak Shek Kok)	32	70
Sha Tin	Lok Lo Ha, Lok Shun Path, Sha Tin	18	980
Sha Tin	The Red Bridge Bungalows, Kau To Shan, Sha Tin	12	150
Sha Tin	Kau To Shan Village, Sha Tin	18	490
Sha Tin	Chek Lai Ping, Tai Po Road (Ma Liu Shui) (Near No.93 Village House)	32	1 160
Sha Tin	Chek Lai Ping, Tai Po Road (Ma Liu Shui) (Near No.32A Village House)	12	200
Sha Tin	Ma Lok Path, Kau Tau Shan, Sha Tin	18	290
Sai Kung	Tung A	6	600
Sai Kung	Mau Wu Tsai Village, near lamp post No. EB 2006	18	600
Sai Kung	Po Lam Road (Opposite to Ma Yau Tong Village)	18	800
Sai Kung	Ma Yau Tong Village, at side of lamp post No. N 9074,	18	600
Sai Kung	Fei Ngo Shan(Tai Pan Court) at junction of Fei Ngo Shan and Fei Ha Road	18	800

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sai Kung	Fei Ngo Shan, at junction of Fei Ngo Shan Road and Fei Wan Road (near Flamingo Garden)	18	800
Sai Kung	Fei Ngo Shan(near Hong Kong Bank Quarters)	18	600
Sai Kung	Tseng Lan Shue Car park	17	1 020
Sai Kung	Pak Shek Wo Village, at junction of Clear Water Bay Road	25	690
Sai Kung	Pak Shek Toi, at entrance of Chung Yin Lane	13	320
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road, Tai Po Tsai	18	2 560
Sai Kung	Tai Po Tsai Village	18	100
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road Rock Cliff Refuse Collection Point SK-13	9	200
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road Rock Cliff	18	500
Sai Kung	Silver Crest Road	20	500
Sai Kung	Silver Terrace Road	24	600
Sai Kung	Silverstrand Beach Car Park	9	300
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road (Lot 328)	11	500
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road , opposite to Park's Shop	16	500
Sai Kung	Pik Sha Road	11	600
Sai Kung	Pik Sha Road	18	960
Sai Kung	Mang Kung Uk Lower Village	18	720
Sai Kung	Mang Kung Uk Upper Village	24	500
Sai Kung	Wing Lung Road No.28	7	500
Sai Kung	Wing Lung Road at Lot 533	6	300

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sai Kung	Pan Long Wan Village, near lamp post No. EB3589	23	300
Sai Kung	Sheung Yeung Village, near lamp post No. EB 4820	8	420
Sai Kung	Ha Yeung SanTsuen Road	18	300
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road, near lamp post No. EB 5860	12	1 290
Sai Kung	Sheung Sze Wan Road	18	880
Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Road, near lamp post No. EB5506	23	870
Sai Kung	Lung Ha Wan, near Charm Shan Monastery	12	400
Sai Kung	Tai Hang Hau Village outside No.54	23	580
Sai Kung	Pik Shui Sun Tsuen Mutual Help Committee Centre, near lamp post No. VA3494-9	18	420
Sai Kung	Nam Wai Refuse Collection Point SK-42	8	300
Sai Kung	Nam Pin Wai Village Refuse Collection Point SK-43	6	180
Sai Kung	At junction of Pak Wan Village and Hiram's Highway	18	670
Sai Kung	Pak Sha Wan Car park, at side of Old Hoi Pak Restaurant	18	670
Sai Kung	Mang Kung Wo Road	18	500
Sai Kung	Sun On Tsuen near LP-V8020	18	600

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sai Kung	Pak Kong Old Village, opposite to lamp post No. EB 3165-1	23	490
Sai Kung	Opposite to Po Lo Che San Tseun No.5, near lamp post No. M2950-7	11	300
Sai Kung	Po Lo Che Road , near Lamp post No. N2961	22	400
Sai Kung	Po Lo Che Road, opposite to lamp post No. N2975-3	77	500
Sai Kung	Lui Ka Che, near lamp post No. EB55665	7	350
Sai Kung	Wong Chuk Wan, Sai Sha Road near lamp post No. N8829	6	300
Sai Kung	Tso Wo Hang, near lamp post No. 5595-7	8	200
Sai Kung	At junction of Yan Yee Road and Mo Ying Road	8	150
Sai Kung	Lu Ka Che, near lamp post No. EB5558-1	5	150
Sai Kung	Hung Fa Tsuen No. 13, at side of Aqua Privy SK-54	17	200
Sai Kung	At junction of Kau Sai San Tsuen and Hiram's Highway	40	740
Sai Kung	Luk Mei Lane, near lamp post No. N9102	18	860
Sai Kung	Yau Yue Wan, at side of lamp post No. EA 0753,	18	670
Sai Kung	Ting Wo Lane car park, near lamp post No. EA1220	150	670

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sai Kung	Sam Long Village	9	600
Sai Kung	Lung Wo Tsuen Refuse Collection Point SK-89	18	270
Sai Kung	Tui Min Hoi Refuse Collection Point	32	670
Sai Kung	Tin Chau Road, near lamp post No. EA1500	18	782
Sai Kung	Pak Kong New Village, near lamp post No. EA1029-9	18	782
Sai Kung	Tin Ha Wan Road, opposite to House No. 32, Tin Ha Wan Village	18	600
Sai Kung	Fui Yiu Lane Refuse Collection Point	18	1 200
Sai Kung	Wong Chuk Shan New Village, near lamp post No. V2151-4	7	400
Sai Kung	Little Palm Beach, Hang Hau, Wing Lung Road, Clearwater Bay	20	773
Sai Kung	Che Keng Tuk Road No. 151, opposite to lamp post No. EA0077-8,	7	182
Sai Kung	Man Sau Sun Tsuen, near lamp post No. V8007-4	5	336
Sai Kung	Tum Fat, Yan Yee Road	7	300
Sai Kung	Po Lo Che Road, opposite to lamp post No. N2975-3	13	500
Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Village at Wing Lai Road Car Park	14	473
Sai Kung	Tsak Yue Wu, near lamp post No. EA0897	23	800

District	Location	Approximate area (square metres)	Estimated daily amount of refuse handled (kilogrammes)
Sai Kung	Po Lo Che Main Refuse Collection Point, near lamp post No. VA80376	9	400

Current Street Cleansing Contract Contractors

District	Name of Contractor	Start Date	Expiry Date
Central and Western	Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/3/2018	29/2/2020
	Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/3/2018	29/2/2020
	Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/7/2017	30/6/2019
	Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/7/2017	29/2/2020
Wan Chai	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/1/2018	31/12/2019
	Lapco Service Limited	1/1/2018	31/12/2019
Eastern	Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/6/2017	31/5/2019
	Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/6/2017	31/5/2019
Southern	Lapco Service Limited	1/11/2017	31/10/2019
Islands	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/11/2016	31/3/2019
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/7/2017	30/6/2019
Yau Tsim	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/5/2018	30/4/2020
	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1/5/2018	30/4/2020
Mong Kok	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1/9/2018	31/8/2020
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/9/2018	31/8/2020
Sham Shui Po	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1/6/2017	31/5/2019
	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1/6/2017	31/5/2019
Kowloon City	Lapco Service Limited	1/10/2017	30/9/2019
	Lapco Service Limited	1/10/2017	30/9/2019
Wong Tai Sin	Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/3/2018	29/2/2020
Kwun Tong	Lapco Service Limited	1/11/2017	31/10/2019
	Lapco Service Limited	1/11/2017	31/10/2019
Kwai Tsing	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1/11/2018	31/10/2020
Tsuen Wan	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/5/2017	30/4/2019
Tuen Mun	Man Shing Cleaning Service Company Limited	1/12/2017	30/11/2019
Yuen Long	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1/7/2018	30/6/2020
	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1/7/2018	30/6/2020
North	Man Shing Cleansing Service Company Limited	1/10/2017	30/9/2019

	Lapco Service Limited	1/10/2017	30/9/2019
Tai Po	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1/11/2018	31/10/2020
Sha Tin	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/7/2017	30/6/2019
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/7/2017	30/6/2019
Sai Kung	Law's Cleaning Services Limited	1/9/2018	31/8/2020
	Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	1/7/2017	30/6/2019

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)128

(Question Serial No. 3076)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (661) Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the installation scheme of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please advise this Committee on:

1. the estimated expenditure to be incurred; and
2. the locations and number of IP cameras to be installed (please present the information with a map and a table).

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1048)

Reply:

Since June 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has installed Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at 115 illegal refuse deposit blackspots over the territory to curb illegal deposits of refuse. The Department plans to extend the scheme for 2 years and will consult District Councils (DCs) to draw up a prioritised site list for IP cameras installation in each district. The Department will progressively install more IP cameras to cover over 300 locations with due consideration given to the locations proposed by DCs. The estimated annual expenditure is about \$26 million. The exact number of IP cameras to be installed and their specific locations will be confirmed at a later stage.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)129

(Question Serial No. 3279)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (661) Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Among the non-recurrent expenditure of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the Estimates, please advise this Committee on the provision for additional equipment for the Cleansing Sections and the items of equipment to be procured.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1097)

Reply:

In 2019-20, a non-recurrent expenditure of \$7.8 million is earmarked for the procurement of 3 grab lorries for the District Cleansing Sections.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)130****(Question Serial No. 2853)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

1. The Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) is responsible for handling water seepage complaints in buildings. Please set out as per the table below the number of water seepage complaints handled by JO in 2018-19 with a breakdown by district in the territory:

	Central and Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sai Kung	Sha Tin	Kwai Tsing	Islands
Complaints or requests for assistance received																		
Complaints or requests for assistance handled																		
Cases with identified source of water seepage																		
Cases without identified source of water seepage																		
Cases being processed																		
Repeated complaints within 5																		

years																			
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2. Is there any plan to improve the investigation procedures with a view to increasing the success rate in identifying the source of water seepage? If yes, please provide the details;
3. JO has mentioned that it is studying and considering the introduction of various methods for water seepage investigation. What is the progress?

Asked by: Hon FAN Kwok-wai, Gary (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

1. The information sought is provided at Annex.
- 2&3. To improve the success rate of identifying sources of water seepage, the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) has commissioned a consultant to deploy the use of infrared thermography and microwave tomography on a pilot basis. These testing technologies are mainly applicable to the investigation of seepage on floor slabs. Since mid-2018, the Buildings Department (BD) has put on trial the testing technologies in Stage III of the water seepage investigation in some districts and the pilot project are scheduled for completion in June 2019. JO will evaluate the effectiveness of the testing technologies and consider all relevant issues before taking a view on the wider application of such technologies. In addition, a task force comprising representatives from Development Bureau, Food and Health Bureau, BD, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and Water Supplies Department was set up in early 2018. The task force is currently conducting a comprehensive review of the JO's operation including streamlining the work procedures of water seepage investigation and enforcement actions, and reviewing operational manuals and guidelines with a view to expediting the entire investigation process.

- End -

Water seepage cases in 2018

District	Complaints or requests for assistance received	Complaints or requests for assistance handled ⁽¹⁾ (a)=(b)+(c) +(d)+(e)	Cases screened out ⁽²⁾ (b)	Cases with seepage ceased during investigation (c)	Cases with identified source of water seepage (d)	Cases without identified source of water seepage (e)	Cases being processed	Repeated complaints within 6 months ⁽⁴⁾
Central and Western	1 381	1 310	836	176	197	101	320	87
Wan Chai	1 396	1 452	680	450	165	157	216	97
Eastern	4 507	3 800	2 089	640	659	412	1 721	186
Southern	1 216	933	431	145	268	89	437	42
Yau Tsim	1 521	977	553	103	273	48	487	54
Mong Kok	1 734	1 691	1 139	198	282	72	721	60
Sham Shui Po	2 100	1 245	579	300	267	99	807	55
Kowloon City	3 271	2 403	1 073	382	589	359	981	117
Wong Tai Sin	1 601	770	180	256	286	48	707	42
Kwun Tong	2 933	1 973	938	198	455	382	823	106
Tsuen Wan	2 230	1 693	773	207	416	297	243	114
Tuen Mun	2 828	2 085	1 291	256	358	180	457	81
Yuen Long	831	581	326	109	87	59	367	78
North	745	984	708	145	101	30	183	33
Tai Po	1 410	1 087	805	91	129	62	243	43
Sai Kung	1 426	904	487	110	124	183	682	37
Sha Tin	2 997	1 925	676	389	476	384	994	336
Kwai Tsing	2 300	2 246	892	598	565	191	593	282
Islands	201	162	115	4	32	11	33	10
Others ⁽³⁾	56	Not Applicable						
Total	36 684	28 221	14 571	4 757	5 729	3 164	11 015	1 860

Note (1) : The figures do not necessarily correspond to the number of reports received in the same year.

Note (2) : These include unjustified cases and withdrawn cases.

Note (3) : The figures refer to general enquiries about policy matters or complaints on water seepage investigation procedure.

Note (4) : Only records within 6 months are kept. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of repeated water seepage cases within 5 years.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)131

(Question Serial No. 1139)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Recently, there were discussions on whether rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) can be named as “salmon” as it belongs to the Salmonidae family, which includes the Atlantic salmon. Meanwhile, a local TV programme introduced grass carp “yu sang” (or raw fish) as a delicacy. The community is concerned about the food safety of freshwater fish sashimi. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) Is there any legislation in place for regulating the sale of raw fish, sashimi and other uncooked aquatic or meat products for human consumption? Please provide information on the inspections conducted, prosecutions instituted or complaints handled in respect of such legislation in the past 3 years.
- (b) How were the enquiries or complaints about rainbow trout being sold as salmon handled in the past 3 years? What actions were taken by the Department?
- (c) Given that marine fish and freshwater fish reared in an uncontrolled environment or their products without proper treatment are susceptible to parasites, and consumption of uncooked aquatic products may pose the risk of parasitic infection, does the Department have any action plans (including law enforcement and public education) to discourage the public from consuming aquatic products not suitable for raw consumption?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

- (a) The Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) stipulates that any food for sale for human consumption in Hong Kong must be fit for human consumption. According to the Food Business Regulations (Cap. 132X) under the Ordinance, Chinese dish Yu Sang is specified as prohibited food. Also, the Regulations stipulate that, save with the permission in writing of the Director of Food

and Environmental Hygiene, no person shall sell restricted food items which include sushi, sashimi, oyster and meat to be eaten in raw state.

There was no prosecution relating to the sale of Chinese dish Yu Sang from 2016 to 2018. The numbers of inspections of food premises and prosecutions against the sale of restricted food items without permission from 2016 to 2018 are as follows -

	2016	2017	2018
Number of inspections to food premises	247 422	248 452	230 254
Number of prosecutions against sale of restricted food items without permission	21	18	22

- (b) From 2016 to 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) had not received any complaint about rainbow trout being sold as salmon.
- (c) The Department will keep reminding the trade of the need to apply for appropriate food business licences or permits and implement a food safety plan for operating a food business to protect consumers' rights and health. The Centre for Food Safety of the Department has also been promoting public awareness of the risk of consuming raw aquatic products through various channels, including its website, Facebook and other publications. In particular, susceptible populations, such as the elderly, young children, pregnant women and people with weakened immune systems, are advised to avoid consuming raw aquatic products.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)132

(Question Serial No. 1140)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20 in the Programme that the Department will roll out the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases. It is also proposed in the Budget that the Government “will allocate more resources to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for refurbishing its public toilets by phases, improving ventilation and other facilities, as well as enhancing their cleanliness and hygiene. It is estimated that a total expenditure of over \$600 million may be incurred, involving about 240 public toilets in the coming five years.” Please advise this Committee on:

- (a) the expenditure and manpower deployment to be involved in the plan, as well as the details and schedule of implementation;
- (b) the 10 public toilets with the highest usage and their usage rates in each of the 18 districts in the past 3 years;
- (c) the 10 most heavily complained public toilets and the number of complaints in each of the 18 districts in the past 3 years;
- (d) the manpower deployed for each public toilet in each of the 18 districts as it is understood that there are generally 3 categories of manpower deployed for public toilets depending on their usage rates, namely 1. toilet attendants; 2. roving cleansing teams; and 3. toilet attendants and roving cleansing teams alternatively (e.g. toilet attendants in the daytime and roving cleansing teams at night);
- (e) the procedures of referring to the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) by the Department for repairs of damaged facilities at public toilets reported by its contractors;
- (f) the number of reports of damaged facilities at public toilets in each of the 18 districts in the past 3 years, as well as the average time lapse between the referral of damages reports and the completion of repairs;

- (g) the list of 240 public toilets to be refurbished as well as the selection criteria and procedures (e.g. consulting District Councils);
- (h) whether the Department will consider consulting 18 District Councils or relevant organisations and compile a priority list for improvement of public toilets with higher usage and more serious problems; and
- (i) whether the Department will consider engaging an independent third-party (e.g. District Councils or consultancy firms), other than the ArchSD which is normally responsible for the design and maintenance of public toilet facilities, to participate in the design and supervision of public toilets, so as to enhance their standards.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

- (a), (g)-(h) About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 with an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. 26 additional staff (comprising 11 civil servants and 15 contract staff) will be deployed to implement the refurbishment programme, incurring an estimated annual expenditure of about \$19.8 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We plan to commence the refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) will consult the relevant District Councils on refurbishment of public toilets, including the layout, duration of the refurbishment works as well as temporary arrangements during closure.
- (b)-(c) FEHD does not keep a list of the top 10 public toilets with the highest utilisation in each of the 18 districts nor the top 10 public toilets with the largest number of complaints. Amongst the 799 public toilets managed by FEHD, 207 have a high utilisation rate (a daily average of over 300 visitors). The number of public toilets with a high utilisation rate is set out at Annex.
- (d) Amongst the 799 toilets managed by FEHD, 264 are provided with toilet attendants, and a total of some 900 toilet attendants are employed by its service contractors. The remaining toilets are cleansed by about 40 mobile cleansing teams involving a total of about 110 cleansing workers.
- (e)-(f) FEHD's staff inspect daily the hygiene, cleanliness and other conditions of public toilets. In respect of minor defects or damage, the cleansing contractors will carry out minor repairs or replacement within 24 hours. For more serious cases, FEHD's staff will notify the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) or the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department for arranging

repairs as soon as possible. FEHD does not maintain a consolidated list of damaged facilities at public toilets.

- (i) On design of public toilets, FEHD and ArchSD have set up a working group to work on design of toilet facilities which may best suit users and individual toilets. FEHD would continue to work in close partnership with ArchSD and engage stakeholders to tap their views.

To continue to monitor contractors' performance, FEHD will also conduct routine and surprise inspections to public toilets. If FEHD finds a contractor in breach of contract provisions, it will take appropriate follow up actions including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices with deduction of monthly payment of service charge. Since November 2018, FEHD has stepped up surprise inspections of cleansing and other public hygiene services provided by outsourced service contractors to better monitor the quality of services. FEHD considers that the above enhancement measures can effectively improve the supervision of toilet services and a review on how to further enhance cleanliness of public toilets can be carried out at a later stage. In parallel, FEHD is stepping up public education on proper use of toilet facilities.

- End -

Number of public toilets with a high utilisation rate

District	Number of Public Toilets
Central and Western	30
Wan Chai	18
Eastern	9
Southern	7
Yau Tsim Mong	13
Sham Shui Po	7
Kowloon City	15
Wong Tai Sin	3
Kwun Tong	4
Kwai Tsing	7
Tsuen Wan	4
Tuen Mun	7
Yuen Long	20
North	14
Tai Po	15
Sha Tin	7
Sai Kung	5
Islands	22

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)133

(Question Serial No. 1141)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to pest control work, the inter-departmental Pest Control Steering Committee has convened meetings to discuss how to improve the Government's overall surveillance and response mechanism and to map out the focus of pest control work and the work plan for this year. It sets objectives in three areas: strengthening prevention, co-ordination and surveillance. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) In the coming year, what are the Government's work on pest control, the objectives, the expenditure required and manpower involved?
- (b) What is the inter-departmental co-ordination work carried out by the inter-departmental Pest Control Steering Committee?
- (c) There is criticism that there is a lack of co-ordination among different departments in mosquito or rodent control work and they handle only matters under their respective purview. What measures will be taken to address the problem of lack of communication and co-ordination among departments?
- (d) There are views that the current rodent infestation rate calculated with reference to the ratio of baits bitten by rodents cannot reflect the actual rodent infestation in the community. Will the Department consider reviewing the calculation method of the rodent infestation rate and adopting multiple reference indicators (such as the number of rodent infestation complaints, the number of live rodents caught and the number of dead rodents collected) to make a comprehensive projection?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

- (a) Pest control work, such as the control of mosquito, rodent and other disease vectors, is carried out by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department). The Department carries out a series of operations including removal of water

accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work at potential breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on locations in close proximity to human residences, schools, construction sites, public housing estates, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo working areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters and cross boundary ferry terminals. The Department adopts multi-pronged strategies for rodent disinfection in designated target areas through elimination of the survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfection and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. For effective control of other disease vectors, the prevention and control measures will be targeted at sites where the pest frequents.

The Department carries out vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation surveys, rat-flea surveys and ad hoc surveys on other insect pests. In response to vector-borne diseases, the Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity as well as provide support and technical advice to other departments on mosquito and rodent prevention and control. It also provides training to staff of other departments to enhance their knowledge and skills in pest control.

The Department has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of pest control services. Dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory.

The estimated expenditure on pest control services for 2019-20 is \$681 million. About 700 departmental staff and 1 800 contractors' staff are deployed to pest control services.

- (b) The major role of the Pest Control Steering Committee (PCSC) is to set directions for both Government's pest control work as well as involvement of the community and the private sector in pest control efforts. The PCSC also maps out the focus of pest control work for members. It has set objectives in 3 areas for 2019, namely strengthening prevention, coordination and surveillance.
- (c) Pest control work is carried out by Government departments in areas under their respective purview to facilitate timely and effective implementation of prevention and control measures. The PCSC provides a platform for members to grasp the latest situation of pest problems, report on their progress, work plan and difficulties encountered as well as to enhance co-ordination and effectiveness of such work, including promoting joint pest control operations, sharing best practices and strengthening contract management. At the district level, inter-departmental meetings are held to ensure sufficient communication between departments so as to strengthen the Government's overall surveillance, response mechanism, deployment and formulate strategies for mosquito and rodent prevention and control work in a systematic manner.

- (d) Since 2000, the Department has been making use of the Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR) and its trend to gauge the general situation of rodent infestation in individual districts and as the basis for devising rodent prevention and control measures and assessing the overall efficacy of rodent prevention and disinfestation work. The RIR reflects the extensiveness of rodent distribution within the survey locations during the survey period. It may not fully reflect the actual situation of rodent infestation in the individual locations. When conducting rodent prevention and control operations, the Department makes appropriate adjustments to the work in individual districts from time to time, taking into consideration reports from front-line staff and the views of the relevant District Councils and the local community, as well as the results of the Rodent Infestation Survey.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)134

(Question Serial No. 1142)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this Programme, it is stated that 93 815 poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks were conducted in 2018, representing a substantial increase over the figure of 70 121 in 2017, and that 60 432 rodent trappings were recorded in 2018, representing a substantial increase over the figure of 54 438 in 2017. Please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) In the past 3 years, how many rodents were caught through poison treatments or trappings? How many rodent complaints were received? Please provide the information with a breakdown by district.
- (b) Has the Department evaluated the cost-effectiveness and constraints of these methods?
- (c) Is there any plan to introduce new methods for catching rodents? How cost-effective will they be and what are the constraints? If there is such a plan, please give the details.
- (d) It was reported in the media that contractors used freshness bags to contain the baits, which would become more difficult for rodents to bite, thus creating a false impression of zero rodent infestation. Did the Department receive any complaints of this kind and how such a situation was handled? Does the Department has a mechanism to supervise the rodent control work performed by contractors? Will it consider inviting a third party to monitor the situation of rodent infestation and the contractors' rodent control work?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

- (a) The information sought is provided at Annex I.

- (b) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has adopted an integrated approach to the prevention and control of rodents through cleansing, enforcement, publicity and public education as well as rodent elimination by poisonous baiting and trapping. Such an approach is premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO) and is in line with that adopted by the Mainland and other countries, like Malaysia, Singapore as well as those in Europe and North America. The Department will continue to keep in view the methods of disease vector surveillance, prevention and control recommended by WHO and adopted by other countries. We keep an open mind on adopting or trying out methods that are suitable for use in local circumstances for further improving the effectiveness of our rodent infestation survey, as well as prevention and control work. The Department will also continue to enhance rodent control work and launch district-specific rodent control measures, including anti-rodent operations at designated target areas, publicity and educational programmes to promote greater community involvement, in addition to the regular pest control work and annual territory-wide publicity campaigns.
- (c) The Department is studying different methods and technologies to improve the rodent surveillance and control work. Details are provided at Annex II.
- (d) Since rodenticides are toxic, they should be handled with care. In practice, rodenticides should be packed in thin plastic bags punched with holes so that rodents may detect the bait, before being placed at selected areas. The thin plastic bag can prevent the bait pellets from being scattered and provide some protection from moisture.

The Department has received some complaints against contractors' staff applying rodenticides in sealed plastic bags. District staff are reminded to keep close monitoring on the performance of service contractors in accordance with the terms and conditions of service contracts as well as the guidelines on the application of rodenticides, and to take appropriate contract enforcement actions whenever necessary.

Members of the public may raise suggestions or lodge complaints on the services provided by the Department through various channels. The Department will follow up the cases, conduct surprise inspections and carry out follow-up investigations in response to complaints. Since November 2018, the Department has assigned dedicated staff to step up surprise inspections of cleansing and pest control services to better monitor the quality of services provided by its outsourced service contractors.

- End -

District	2016		
	Number of rodents trapped	Number of rodents poisoned	Number of rodent infestation complaints received
Central and Western	1 534	1 910	881
Wan Chai	803	1 278	534
Eastern	910	2 625	650
Southern	430	697	145
Yau Tsim Mong	2 304	2 944	1 235
Sham Shui Po	642	2 299	996
Kowloon City	1 202	1 749	810
Wong Tai Sin	314	413	277
Kwun Tong	280	2 025	490
Kwai Tsing	289	433	215
Tsuen Wan	1 216	707	354
Tuen Mun	278	525	361
Yuen Long	499	1 920	550
North	274	979	275
Tai Po	1 081	973	268
Sha Tin	663	695	382
Sai Kung	225	617	337
Islands	248	1 188	278
Overall	13 192	23 977	9 038

District	2017		
	Number of rodents trapped	Number of rodents poisoned	Number of rodent infestation complaints received
Central and Western	1 689	1 932	871
Wan Chai	584	1 241	691
Eastern	871	2 407	765
Southern	438	708	189
Yau Tsim Mong	2 391	3 176	1 247
Sham Shui Po	1 330	2 848	1 181
Kowloon City	1 491	2 322	865
Wong Tai Sin	296	720	343
Kwun Tong	448	2 213	477
Kwai Tsing	344	496	254
Tsuen Wan	1 399	817	347
Tuen Mun	88	415	354

District	2017		
	Number of rodents trapped	Number of rodents poisoned	Number of rodent infestation complaints received
Yuen Long	735	2 084	795
North	466	1 203	306
Tai Po	938	1 254	346
Sha Tin	704	800	530
Sai Kung	252	513	358
Islands	240	1 185	331
Overall	14 704	26 334	10 250

District	2018		
	Number of rodents trapped	Number of rodents poisoned	Number of rodent infestation complaints received
Central and Western	1 763	1 890	992
Wan Chai	805	1 622	909
Eastern	890	2 398	884
Southern	439	713	171
Yau Tsim Mong	2 364	3 217	1 199
Sham Shui Po	2 241	3 853	1 381
Kowloon City	1 666	2 592	1 128
Wong Tai Sin	413	1 441	338
Kwun Tong	819	2 434	487
Kwai Tsing	520	408	336
Tsuen Wan	1 631	823	376
Tuen Mun	128	503	411
Yuen Long	602	1 654	892
North	464	1 034	387
Tai Po	585	771	352
Sha Tin	703	858	696
Sai Kung	231	480	381
Islands	240	1 183	343
Overall	16 504	27 874	11 663

1. Night-vision camera : By installing a night-vision camera with artificial intelligence (AI) capable of identifying rodents at locations where they are rampant, it is possible to analyse the extent and severity of the rodent problem, e.g. the density of rodents and their movements. Targeted measures may be formulated accordingly to control and kill rodents. Information and data provided by the night-vision camera surveillance system may also help analyse and assess the effectiveness of the rodent control measures.
2. Thermal imaging cameras : The Department has engaged a technology company to use thermal imaging cameras and develop an AI system for rodent surveillance.
3. Nara Bloc and Spray : Nara Bloc is a new product that contains non-poisonous bait claimed to have better attractiveness to rodents. It may be used as bait for census baiting, e.g. Rodent Infestation Survey (RIS). Nara Spray may be applied to rodenticides and rodent traps to increase their attractiveness to rodents in order to achieve better poisoning and trapping effects.
4. Rodent trapping devices driven by pressurised gas (A24) : It is a trapping device using compressed carbon dioxide gas for driving a striker to kill rodents that touch the trigger when trying to access the lure set inside the device. The trap clears and resets automatically after each firing.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)135****(Question Serial No. 1143)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise on the number of samples taken from various fresh food wholesale markets for testing in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by food type and market, as well as the number of samples with test results exceeding the safety levels and the testing items (e.g. heavy metals, pesticide residues) involving exceedances.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)Reply:

The numbers of food samples taken from fresh food wholesale markets for routine food surveillance from 2016 to 2018 with breakdown by food category are as follows –

Fresh food wholesale market	Food category	Number of food samples taken		
		2016	2017	2018
Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Food Market	Vegetable	883	845	1 004
	Poultry egg	171	166	194
	Aquatic product	53	39	45
Western Wholesale Food Market	Fruit	1 050	1 066	1 288
	Vegetable	790	760	840
	Poultry egg	166	162	225

Fresh food wholesale market	Food category	Number of food samples taken		
		2016	2017	2018
	Aquatic product	17	23	25
Cheung Sha Wan Vegetable Marketing Organization	Vegetable	122	115	126
North District Temporary Wholesale Market for Agricultural Products	Vegetable	1	4	2
Aberdeen Wholesale Fish Market	Aquatic product	0	0	2
	Total	3 253	3 180	3 751

Except for 4 samples of aquatic products taken in 2016 and 4 samples of vegetables taken in 2018 which were respectively detected to have veterinary drug residues and pesticide residues exceeding the relevant food safety standards, the testing results of all other samples were satisfactory.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)136

(Question Serial No. 1144)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the regime of the Liquor Licensing Board, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the expenditure and manpower for handling the work of the Liquor Licensing Board in 2019-20;
- (b) the number of existing liquor licences in the territory, the locations of liquor-licensed premises and the types of buildings (residential, commercial or composite commercial/residential buildings) in which these premises are located;
- (c) the total number of liquor licence applications received in the past 3 years; among them, the number of applications granted and refused, the number of appeals lodged and the success rate of appeal.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

- (a) A total of 40 staff in the 3 licensing offices in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are responsible for handling liquor and club liquor licence applications as part of their licensing-related duties. There is no separate breakdown for the expenditure involved in handling liquor licence applications and appeals. In addition, 9 staff are deployed for providing secretariat support to the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB), involving an estimated expenditure of \$6.7 million.

- (b) The number of liquor licences in the territory (broken down by district) as at end-2018 is provided in the table below. There is no separate breakdown on the type of buildings in which the licensed premises are located.

District	No. of Liquor Licences (as at end-2018)		Total
	Liquor Licences	Club Liquor Licences	
Central and Western	1 065	67	1 132
Eastern	363	11	374
Southern	124	27	151
Wanchai	1 163	102	1 265
Islands	265	19	284
Yau Tsim Mong	1 904	89	1 993
Sham Shui Po	332	8	340
Kowloon City	436	17	453
Wong Tai Sin	180	3	183
Kwun Tong	323	9	332
Tsuen Wan	270	13	283
Kwai Tsing	163	4	167
North	105	7	112
Tai Po	185	5	190
Sai Kung	213	9	222
Shatin	304	12	316
Tuen Mun	206	6	212
Yuen Long	376	14	390
Total	7 977	422	8 399

- (c) The information sought is provided as follows –

	2016	2017	2018
Total number of liquor licence applications received (with the number of applications for new licence in brackets)	6 520 (1 032)	6 324 (1 181)	6 865 (1 131)
Total number of applications granted by LLB ¹	6 987	7 081	7 239
Total number of applications refused by LLB ¹	34	41	22
Total number of appeals lodged with Municipal Services Appeals Board (MSAB)	22	25	11
Success rate of appeals (i.e. appeals allowed by MSAB) ²	76%	86%	73%

¹ Applications for liquor licences received in a year may be carried forward for processing in the subsequent year.

² Only appeal cases with MSAB's decisions issued before the end of a calendar year are taken into account for calculating the success rate of appeals in that year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)137

(Question Serial No. 1146)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to environmental hygiene and related services, please provide information on the following:

- (a) What are the Department's estimated expenditure and manpower resources for the provision of cleansing services in 2019-20 (including the expenditure on various cleansing services as well as the number of contractors, in-house staff and contractor staff)? What are the changes in expenditure and manpower over the past 3 years? Please provide the information with a breakdown by type of services.
- (b) The Chief Executive has announced measures to improve the employment terms and conditions as well as labour benefits of non-skilled employees engaged by government service contractors in the 2018 Policy Address. The measures include increasing the technical weighting in the marking schemes for tender evaluation and the weighting of wage level as a criterion for technical assessment, enhancing the employment benefits (including providing a contractual gratuity) for the non-skilled employees, and encouraging procuring departments to adopt service contracts with a minimum term of three years where operational situations permit. Please advise on the implementation of the relevant measures for outsourced cleansing services, the additional expenditure involved, and the improvement made to the salaries or the employment terms and conditions of the employees concerned.
- (c) The Secretary for Labour and Welfare Dr. Law Chi-kwong said earlier that many workers of contractors engaged by the Government were elderly people, arousing concern in various sectors of the community about the ageing problem of outsourced workers. What is the age distribution of front-line outsourced cleansing workers (excluding staff at managerial and supervisory levels)? What measures has the Department taken to deal with the ageing problem of outsourced workers?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

- (a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will provide public cleansing services in 2019-20 at an estimated expenditure of \$3,410 million. These include street cleansing, waste collection and other public cleansing services. A total of about 11 800 staff, including 3 080 departmental staff and 8 670 contractors' staff, are involved in providing such services. Comparing the expenditure on a year-on-year basis, there is an increase of about 6.1% in 2017-18, 14.6% in 2018-19 and 12.3% in 2019-20 respectively. The increase in manpower is about 3.1%, 9.3% and 7.9% (estimate) in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively.
- (b) The new measures are applicable to tenders to be issued on or after 1 April 2019. To benefit non-skilled workers engaged in the service contracts awarded during the transitional period between the announcement of the new policy in October 2018 and the effective date of 1 April 2019, the Department will negotiate with the service contractors concerned to incorporate relevant new enhancement measures into the service contracts by making top-up payments on a reimbursement basis for the additional costs incurred, estimated at \$68 million. For contracts to be tendered after 1 April 2019, expenses arising from the new measures will be reflected in the tender price of the contracts.
- (c) The Department does not keep statistics on the age distribution of front-line outsourced cleansing workers. For the sake of occupational health and efficiency, the Department is making use of suitable equipment/machineries to improve its public cleansing services. Technological solutions or equipment will be specified as part of the requirements of our new service contracts. The Department will also encourage service operators to make suggestions on innovative application of technologies under proposed Execution Plan of the contract, which will increase their technical marks and hence their likelihood of tender award.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)138

(Question Serial No. 1147)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20 under this Programme, the Department will “follow up proactively the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control”. Please advise this Committee on:

- (a) the additional expenditure and manpower involved in implementing the recommendations in the reports; and
- (b) the specific plans or measures adopted by the Department in putting forward the recommendations in the reports, and the timetable for implementation.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a task group, led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission and the Legislative Council Public Accounts Committee concerning the work of CFS in food safety management and import control. The task group has commenced comprehensive reviews on CFS' operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has started to roll out concrete and effective short, medium and long term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, and strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. In 2019-20, 35 additional civil service posts will be created in CFS along with an additional provision of \$25 million to implement the reviews and the enhancement measures.

In addition, CFS already put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)139

(Question Serial No. 1148)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to food surveillance, please provide information on:

- (a) the financial provision and manpower for food surveillance by the Centre for Food Safety in 2019-20; and
- (b) the total number of food samples taken for testing in various projects under the Food Surveillance Programme in 2018-19 (including routine food surveillance, targeted food surveillance and seasonal food surveillance) and the satisfactory rates.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

(a) The Food Import and Export Section and the Food Surveillance and Complaint Section of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are responsible for carrying out food surveillance work, including collection of samples for testing at the import, wholesale and retail levels. The two Sections have an estimated establishment of 405 staff members and an estimated expenditure of about \$302.5 million in 2019-20. As these sections are also tasked with other duties, CFS does not have breakdown on the resources used for food surveillance specifically.

(b) CFS keeps statistics on food surveillance on a calendar year basis. In 2018, about 66 000 food samples were taken for testing under various surveillance projects, including 58 300 for routine checks, 6 500 for targeted checks and 1 200 for seasonal checks. The overall satisfactory rate was 99.8%.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)140

(Question Serial No. 1149)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to public niches, please provide information on:

- (a) the number of deaths (Hong Kong residents) and the means of disposal of the dead (by burial, cremation or green burial) in the past 3 years;
- (b) the number of applications for public niches in Hong Kong, the number of niches allocated, the total number of applications on the waiting list and the average waiting time for a public niche in the past 3 years;
- (c) the relevant plan and timetable, including the differences between the new and previous niche allocation arrangements in the fees charged and the term of use, given that the Department will resume allocation of new public niches as mentioned under the Programme;
- (d) the number of public and private niches to be provided in the next 10 years, and whether there is any long-term planning for the provision of public and private niches (such as setting targets for the supply of public and private niches) so that a comprehensive plan for the supply of niches can be formulated; and
- (e) the usage rate of the green burial services in Hong Kong, with a breakdown by type of green burial, in the past 3 years, as well as the new measures for promoting green burial.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

- (a) The information sought is provided as follows -

Year	No. of Deaths	No. of Burials	No. of Cremations	No. of Green Burial Cases*
2016	46 662	3 253	43 556	5 366
2017	45 883	2 962	42 809	6 539
2018	47 479	3 136	43 803	7 046

* Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries.

- (b) New niches are allocated through computer balloting. The last public niches allocation exercise at Kiu Tau Road Columbarium was completed in March 2016. Thereafter, there was no supply of new public niches for allocation to members of the public generally.

The waiting list applies only to the allocation of niches returned to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department). In the past 3 years, on average about 324 niches per annum were returned to the Department. These niches were re-allocated according to the priority in the waiting list of the respective columbarium. The information sought is provided as follows -

Year	Re-allocated niches			
	No. of applications received	No. of niches re-allocated	No. of applications on the waiting list	Average waiting time (months)
2016	6 923	271	24 280	42
2017	7 931	346	29 168	46
2018	8 410	448	35 693	50

Note: The average waiting time is dependent on the number of niches that are returned to the Department for re-allocation.

- (c) The Department plans to allocate about 20 000 niches in Tsang Tsui Columbarium (first phase) in Tuen Mun together with 855 niches in Wong Nai Chung Road Columbarium in Wan Chai in the coming niche allocation exercise in mid 2019.

To cope with the increasing demand for disposal of ashes and to make the most of the future stock coming on stream, the Government has proposed to introduce, starting from the coming allocation exercise, a new set of arrangement in allocating public niches. Major features of the new arrangements are set out below -

- (i) public niches will be allocated for use for an initial period of 20 years, followed by extension every 10 years upon application by the niche allocatee or nominated representative(s) and payment of the prevailing prescribed fees. This extendable arrangement will not affect existing public niches already allocated on a permanent basis;
 - (ii) to expedite the process, public niches will be allocated by drawing of lots and computer balloting to assign a specified niche randomly to successful applicants. Applications involving co-location of ashes or failure to subscribe a public niche in the last allocation exercise will be given an additional “ballot paper” (or heavier weighting) to enhance their chance of success in the coming allocation exercise; and
 - (iii) we propose to set the fees for the initial interment period of 20 years for a standard niche at \$2,400 and a large niche at \$3,000. Thereafter, use of the niches may be extended at 10-year intervals at prevailing fees. Other fees applicable to specific circumstances are also proposed. Relevant amendments to the Public Health and Municipal Services (Fees) Regulation (Cap. 132CJ) were tabled on 20 February 2019 for negative vetting by the Legislative Council. The Department will invite applications for allocation of public niches upon commencement of the Amendment Regulation.
- (d) A total of 24 potential sites have been identified in the 18 districts under the district-based columbarium development scheme. Between the second quarter of 2011 and the end of 2018, the Government consulted the relevant District Councils (DCs) on projects at 14 sites to which the DCs indicated support or no-objection, which would provide around 590 000 new niches in total. As regards the remaining projects, the Government will continue the planning work and consult the relevant DCs when ready. If taken forward, they would provide an additional 300 000 niches.

The future supply of private niches is contingent upon a host of factors including private columbarium operators’ business decisions, the number of private columbaria that comply with the application requirements for licence and the number of niches that they may provide. The Department is not in a position to make projection of supply of private niches. Given scarce land resources, the Government has been promoting green burial as a more sustainable form of ash disposal. It provides an alternative to depositing ashes in niches and may work to alleviate the demand for niches over time with change in mindset.

- (e) The information sought is provided as follows -

Year	Number of cases	Scattering of ashes		Percentage of Total Number of Deaths
		At sea	In Gardens of Remembrance*	
2016	900	4 466	5 366	11.5%
2017	966	5 573	6 539	14.3%
2018	972	6 074	7 046	14.8%

* Inclusive of cases handled by private cemeteries.

The Department has been promoting green burial through different channels, including Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, promotional videos, posters and banners, a mobile application, a dedicated website, collaboration with non-government organisations and promotional activities at senior exhibitions, etc. The Green Burial Central Register was launched in January 2019 to encourage the public to register their wish for green burial. The Department will continue with its efforts to promote green burial including the Green Burial Central Register.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)141****(Question Serial No. 1150)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under section 31(1)(d) of the Food Business Regulation (Cap. 132X), any person who carries on any food business which involves the sale of fresh, chilled or frozen beef, mutton, pork, reptiles, fish or poultry must obtain a fresh provision shop (FPS) licence. In this connection, please provide information on:

- (a) the number of FPS licences in force in Hong Kong in 2018-19, with a breakdown by licence type (fresh, chilled and frozen);
- (b) the number of inspections conducted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to licensed fresh provision shops in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by licence type (fresh, chilled and frozen); the number and nature of cases of irregularities detected; and the number of prosecutions instituted; and
- (c) the specific measures to tackle the sale of chilled meat as fresh meat by FPS licensees.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

- (a) The information sought is given below, showing the position as at end-2018 –

Type of Commodities Permitted to be Sold	Number of fresh provision shops (FPS)
Fresh commodities	872
Chilled commodities	111
Frozen commodities	297
Fresh and chilled commodities	185
Fresh and frozen commodities	113
Chilled and frozen commodities	352
Fresh, chilled and frozen commodities	739
Total	2 669

- (b) In general, inspections of FPS are conducted once every 4, 10 or 20 weeks according to the risk type of individual premises as assessed under the “Risk-based Inspection System” (the System). The licence type (fresh, chilled and frozen) is only one of the design criteria under the System. Criteria such as the track record of the licensees and the risks inherent in the products sold are also relevant. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) keeps statistics on the overall number of inspections pertaining to licensed food premises. A separate breakdown of inspections for licensed FPS or by licence type is not available. A breakdown on prosecution statistics in 2016, 2017 and 2018 by nature of irregularities against licensed FPS is at Annex.
- (c) The Department has imposed a specific licensing condition prohibiting the sale of chilled meat as fresh meat by FPS licensees. Any breach of the licensing condition warrants immediate cancellation of the FPS licence without warning. In the past 3 years, 2 FPS licences were cancelled for breaching the specific licensing condition.

- End -

Prosecutions Instituted Against Licensed Fresh Provision Shops

Nature of irregularities	Number of prosecutions		
	2016	2017	2018
Dirty food premises / presence of vermins, live birds or animals	0	2	5
Dirty equipment and utensils	0	1	0
Food not protected from risk of contamination	4	5	13
Use of open space for scullery / food preparation / storage of food utensils	1	1	4
Dirty food room / improper repair of food room	2	5	3
Alteration to the approved layout of the premises	5	2	5
Sale of restricted food without permission	6	4	2
Extension of food business beyond licensed area	38	25	90
Obstruction of public places	176	122	158
Other irregularities such as smoking in food room, sale of fresh and chilled meat at the same premises, sale of food which was not of the nature, substance or quality demanded by the purchaser, conducting other type of food business without licence/permission, fresh meat containing preservative, etc.	18	7	8
Total	250	174	288

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)142

(Question Serial No. 1151)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Office of The Ombudsman (the Office) published a direct investigation report on the rental management of market stalls by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in August 2018. It was stated in the report that there were a total of 1 193 stalls (8% of stalls in public markets) withheld by the Department for specific reasons (hereinafter referred to as “frozen stalls”). Frozen stalls have been left idle for years, resulting in serious wastage of public resources. The Office pointed out the problem by citing Tung Yick Market in Yuen Long as an example, where more than 200 stalls have been left vacant for 20 years.

With regard to the follow-up actions on the report, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the expenditure on subsidising public market management in the past 3 years?
- (b) What are the changes in the number of frozen stalls in the past 3 years? What is the economic loss incurred by frozen stalls or the amount of rental loss involved?
- (c) What improvement measures have been taken in the light of the report? What are the timetable and progress of implementation?
- (d) At present, how many stalls in public markets are vacant and what is the vacancy rate? What is the average and longest vacancy period?
- (e) It was pointed out in the report that “the overall occupancy rate of stalls in public markets stands at 90%. However, in recent years there have been media reports and public complaints from time to time of serious problems of idling stalls in public markets. Many stalls are either not operating or used for storage only, without selling foods or commodities to the public”. In response to this problem, what are the follow-up actions taken by the Department? Has the Department assessed the number of operators involved in inactive operation of their stalls?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) For 2016-17 and 2017-18, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) recorded deficits of \$401.9 million and \$369.5 million respectively in the management of public markets. The deficit for 2018-19 (revised estimate) is \$419.9 million.
- (b) The information in respect of change in the number of frozen stalls in the past 3 years is provided as follows –

As at	Number of frozen stalls
31 December 2016	995
31 December 2017	1 019
31 December 2018	1 222

When market improvement works are being planned or when markets are in the course of consolidation/closure, it may be necessary for the Department to reserve or freeze some vacant stalls in a market to relocate stall operators to be affected to such stalls to continue their business if they so wish.

- (c) In the light of the report of the Office of the Ombudsman on frozen stalls in public markets, we are studying the feasibility of letting out vacant stalls through short-term tenancy so that a sufficient number of vacant stalls can be maintained to relocate sitting tenants while others can be put to gainful use in the interim. We will engage the stakeholders, and expect to complete the review and work out the detailed arrangements by mid 2019.
- (d) Vacant stalls refer to stalls that are not let out. The degree of activity of let-out stalls varies. As at 31 December 2018, 1 535, or 11%, out of a total of 14 068 stalls in public markets were not let out. The figure includes stalls frozen for various reasons, such as those in markets undergoing improvement works or stalls that may be needed for accommodating tenants from other public markets being planned for closure. Information on the average and longest period of vacancy is not available.
- (e) We have stepped up inspection of market stalls especially to those which are found not in operation, or in an inactive state such as short business hours or being used for storage purpose, etc. The Department issued 1 063 verbal warnings and 1 166 warning letters, and terminated 26 stall tenancy agreements in 2018. In addition, 339 tenants had voluntarily surrendered their stalls before we issued the final warning letter. Our enforcement action against inactive stalls will continue.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)143

(Question Serial No. 1152)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the efforts against illegal hawking of unlicensed hawkers, please provide information on:

- (a) the number of warnings issued and prosecutions instituted against illegal hawking of unlicensed hawkers, the locations involved, as well as the nature of these cases, in 2018-19;
- (b) whether new measures will be put in place or additional manpower or resources be allocated to deal with illegal hawking at unlicensed hawker blackspots; and
- (c) whether new measures will be put in place or additional manpower or resources be allocated to deal with illegal hawking during festive periods when unlicensed hawkers are active.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) In 2018, there were 5 564 prosecutions against unlicensed hawkers, mainly due to street obstruction, illegal hawking and sale of cooked food / restricted food. Further detailed breakdown is not available. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep statistics on the number of warnings issued.
- (b) Unlicensed hawking is itinerant and best deterred by mobile patrolling and raiding through strategic and flexible staff deployment. In 2019-20, the Department will continue to do so through redeployment of its existing manpower resources. In addition, the Department's Hawker Control Team (HCT) staff will continue to patrol

at blackspots regularly to deter illegal hawking activities and to prevent unlicensed hawkers from taking root at these locations. To enhance deterrence, HCT staff also mount raiding operations at blackspots to arrest unlicensed hawkers and seize their goods and equipment.

- (c) To deter the illegal activities of cooked food hawkers during festive periods, the Department will consider enhancing publicity at strategic locations through mounting roadside banners, handing out notices and broadcasting by a mobile van in the run up to festive periods. The Department will take into account the actual situations on the ground and flexibly deploy existing manpower resources to combat illegal hawking during the festive periods.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)144

(Question Serial No. 1186)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the fresh provision shop (FPS) licence and the hawker licence to operate a market stall, please advise on:

- (a) the number of FPS licences with permission for selling live poultry/poultry stalls in markets, with a breakdown by district, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (b) the number of FPS licences with permission for selling pork/pork stalls in markets, with a breakdown by district, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (c) the number of FPS licences with permission for selling beef and mutton/beef and mutton stalls in markets, with a breakdown by district, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19); and
- (d) the number of FPS licences with permission for selling live fish/live fish stalls in markets, with a breakdown by district, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

The information sought at (a)-(d) is provided at Annexes I to IV respectively.

- End -

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling live poultry

As at year end District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	2	2	2
Wan Chai	3	3	3
Eastern	2	2	2
Southern	0	0	0
Islands	1	1	1
Yau Tsim Mong	9	9	9
Sham Shui Po	2	2	2
Kowloon City	1	1	1
Wong Tai Sin	3	3	3
Kwun Tong	4	4	4
Kwai Tsing	1	1	1
Tsuen Wan	0	0	0
Tuen Mun	1	1	1
Yuen Long	4	4	4
North	0	0	0
Tai Po	2	2	2
Sha Tin	7	7	7
Sai Kung	3	3	3
Total	45	45	45

Live poultry stalls in public markets

As at year end District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	7	7	7
Wan Chai	7	7	7
Eastern	6	6	6
Southern	1	1	1
Islands	0	0	0
Yau Tsim Mong	6	6	6
Sham Shui Po	12	11	11
Kowloon City	5	5	5
Wong Tai Sin	4	4	4
Kwun Tong	4	4	4
Kwai Tsing	2	2	2
Tsuen Wan	9	9	9
Tuen Mun	4	4	4
Yuen Long	5	5	5
North	4	5	5
Tai Po	5	5	5
Sha Tin	4	4	4
Sai Kung	0	0	0
Total	85	85	85

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling fresh pork

As at year end District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	90	90	97
Wan Chai	65	66	70
Eastern	128	134	138
Southern	61	66	67
Islands	34	38	41
Yau Tsim Mong	147	150	150
Sham Shui Po	111	114	111
Kowloon City	110	109	115
Wong Tai Sin	105	104	93
Kwun Tong	153	159	157
Kwai Tsing	128	122	116
Tsuen Wan	91	93	87
Tuen Mun	124	125	123
Yuen Long	137	137	148
North	53	50	48
Tai Po	68	72	74
Sha Tin	167	174	158
Sai Kung	89	89	89
Total	1 861	1 892	1 882

Stalls selling fresh pork in public markets

As at year end District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	51	52	52
Wan Chai	23	23	23
Eastern	49	48	47
Southern	22	22	21
Islands	30	30	30
Yau Tsim Mong	39	39	33
Sham Shui Po	15	15	14
Kowloon City	52	51	50
Wong Tai Sin	56	48	44
Kwun Tong	25	25	24
Kwai Tsing	12	12	12
Tsuen Wan	47	47	39
Tuen Mun	25	25	25
Yuen Long	73	74	71
North	70	60	61
Tai Po	31	31	31
Sha Tin	18	19	19
Sai Kung	16	12	12
Total	654	633	608

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling fresh beef/mutton

As at year end District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	84	86	89
Wan Chai	61	61	64
Eastern	102	108	110
Southern	54	58	60
Islands	28	32	31
Yau Tsim Mong	122	126	121
Sham Shui Po	89	91	87
Kowloon City	92	91	96
Wong Tai Sin	82	83	73
Kwun Tong	109	114	113
Kwai Tsing	91	84	85
Tsuen Wan	74	74	67
Tuen Mun	95	102	96
Yuen Long	101	113	115
North	44	44	37
Tai Po	48	50	52
Sha Tin	122	126	112
Sai Kung	65	66	66
Total	1 463	1 509	1 474

Stalls selling fresh beef/mutton in public markets

As at year end District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	24	25	25
Wan Chai	10	10	10
Eastern	25	21	20
Southern	6	6	5
Islands	5	5	5
Yau Tsim Mong	27	27	23
Sham Shui Po	5	5	4
Kowloon City	38	37	36
Wong Tai Sin	34	26	22
Kwun Tong	9	7	6
Kwai Tsing	5	5	5
Tsuen Wan	20	19	16
Tuen Mun	10	10	10
Yuen Long	73	74	71
North	22	22	23
Tai Po	31	31	31
Sha Tin	5	5	5
Sai Kung	10	6	6
Total	359	341	323

Fresh provision shop licences with permission for selling aquatic products*

As at year end District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	90	89	90
Wan Chai	67	68	69
Eastern	139	145	151
Southern	66	70	71
Islands	33	37	40
Yau Tsim Mong	150	153	152
Sham Shui Po	102	104	99
Kowloon City	100	94	104
Wong Tai Sin	101	95	86
Kwun Tong	190	195	198
Kwai Tsing	106	102	97
Tsuen Wan	65	66	60
Tuen Mun	110	115	113
Yuen Long	99	103	117
North	50	47	42
Tai Po	59	63	62
Sha Tin	163	164	143
Sai Kung	100	103	93
Total	1 790	1 813	1 787

* The figures denote the numbers of fresh provision shop licensees which may sell fresh fish and/or other aquatic products. There is no breakdown of data on sale of fresh fish.

Stalls selling aquatic products in public markets#

As at year end District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	107	107	105
Wan Chai	56	56	56
Eastern	90	85	80
Southern	66	65	64
Islands	99	91	94
Yau Tsim Mong	122	120	113
Sham Shui Po	61	60	60
Kowloon City	88	88	87
Wong Tai Sin	88	87	87
Kwun Tong	34	34	33
Kwai Tsing	37	37	37
Tsuen Wan	104	103	101
Tuen Mun	48	48	48
Yuen Long	139	139	148
North	101	101	101
Tai Po	69	69	68
Sha Tin	45	45	46
Sai Kung	38	38	37
Total	1 392	1 373	1 365

The figures denote the number of public market stalls which may sell fresh fish and/or other aquatic products. There is no breakdown of data on sale of fresh fish.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)145****(Question Serial No. 3258)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to the wholesale of live cattle, please advise on:

- (a) the total number, the average daily number, as well as the highest and the lowest daily wholesale numbers of live cattle supplied to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (b) the monthly average, the highest and the lowest prices of live cattle supplied to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19); and
- (c) the total expenditure and average expenditure per head of cattle by the Government in handling live cattle (such as the arrangements for slaughterhouses and quarantine management), as well as the manpower involved.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)Reply:

- (a) Information on the number of live cattle imported in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows –

Calendar Year	Total number of live cattle imported	Daily number of live cattle imported		
		Average	Highest	Lowest
2016	17 493	48	97	9
2017	17 338	48	88	13
2018	17 162	47	99	9

(b) Information on the wholesale prices of live cattle imported in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows –

Calendar Year	Wholesale prices per picul of live cattle imported (HK\$)					
	Marbled Meat Cattle			Beef Cattle		
	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest
2016	4,690	4,690	4,690	4,070	4,070	4,070
2017	4,578	4,690	4,540	3,958	4,070	3,920
2018	4,686	4,740	4,540	4,104	4,170	3,920

(c) The revised estimate of the expenditure on live food animal inspection in slaughterhouses in 2018-19 is \$42.9 million, involving 91 staff posts from the Centre for Food Safety. The average expenditure during the year on each live food animal slaughtered is about \$26.9. The live food animals concerned include pigs, cattle and goats. The cost for handling live cattle cannot be separately quantified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)146****(Question Serial No. 0243)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

In relation to the “management of public cleansing facilities such as public toilets and refuse collection points (RCPs)”,

- please set out as per the table below the RCPs in the territory that are provided with attendant rooms or common rooms, areas of the attendant rooms or common rooms, the number of attendants and whether the RCPs are connected to other public facilities:

District	Location of RCP	Whether attendant room or common room is provided	Area of attendant room or common room	Whether window is installed in the attendant room or common room	Number of attendants	Whether connected to other public facilities
		attendant room	attendant room	attendant room		
		common room	common room	common room		

- what is the estimated expenditure required for providing all RCPs with attendant rooms or common rooms?

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)Reply:

Currently, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) manages 159 permanent off-street refuse collection points (RCPs). Each RCP is staffed by an attendant in each work shift. Generally speaking, permanent off-street RCPs with roll call points are

provided with changing rooms. Nonetheless, there are exceptions owing to space constraints. Such being the case, the Department allows its contractors to provide temporary changing and storage facilities in RCPs for the convenience of their employees where circumstances permit. Of all permanent off-street RCPs, 74 are provided with offices and common facilities which may be used by the RCP attendants.

For newly built RCPs, changing and storage facilities are provided for both in-house staff and contractors' staff if circumstances permit. The Department has also kick-started a pilot scheme to carry out improvement works in existing roll call points, including RCPs, for provision of changing and storage facilities. It will also provide changing and storage facilities if circumstances permit when the RCPs are refurbished.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)147****(Question Serial No. 0244)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the indicators “poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks”, “number of rodent trappings” and “rodent control surveys conducted”,

- what are the reasons for the substantial increase in the actual figures in 2018 over those in 2017, and what are the expenditures involved?
- please provide in detail the “poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks”, “number of rodent trappings”, “rodent control surveys conducted” and “Rodent Infestation Rate” in various districts below and in the territory in each of the past 3 years (from 2016 to 2018).

2016 / 2017 / 2018

Districts	Poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Rodent control surveys conducted	Rodent Infestation Rate
Central and Western				
Eastern				
Southern				
Wan Chai				
Kowloon City				
Kwun Tong				
Wong Tai Sin				
Sham Shui Po				
Mong Kok				
Yau Tsim				
Sha Tin				
Tai Po				
North				
Kwai Tsing				

Tsuen Wan				
Tuen Mun				
Yuen Long				
Sai Kung				
Islands				
Whole territory				

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

In 2017 and 2018, the number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks was 70 121 and 93 815 respectively, and the number of trappings was 54 438 and 60 432 respectively. The increase in the number of poison treatments and trappings for rodent in 2018 was attributable to the strengthening of prevention and control measures taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in response to increasing public concerns about rodent infestation. In 2017 and 2018, the Department carried out 1 969 and 2 033 rodent surveys respectively. The actual expenditure on rodent control work was \$172.6 million in 2017-18, and the revised estimate for 2018-19 is \$198.3 million. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure relating to poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks, number of rodent trappings and rodent control surveys conducted.

The detailed information sought is provided at the Annex.

- End -

District	2016			
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Number of rodent control surveys	Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR)
Central and Western	3 270	4 768	27	6.6%
Eastern	6 845	2 545	42	3.8%
Southern	2 016	866	35	3.8%
Wan Chai	3 245	3 265	20	3.6%
Kowloon City	4 368	13 174	25	3.7%
Kwun Tong	6 180	695	35	4.2%
Wong Tai Sin	623	157	35	3.4%
Sham Shui Po	197	1 760	44	8.9%
Mong Kok	178	5 067	25	8.4%
Yau Tsim	55	2 865	25	3.2%
Sha Tin	408	8 768	25	3.0%
Tai Po	8 904	373	40	1.4%
North	1 427	295	42	2.5%
Kwai Tsing	1 546	141	35	4.1%
Tsuen Wan	3 782	2 960	35	4.1%
Tuen Mun	4 800	1 727	45	1.7%
Yuen Long	5 397	382	35	2.7%
Sai Kung	3 816	1 065	40	0.9%
Islands	152	2 604	25	1.9%
Overall	57 209	53 477	635	4.0%

District	2017			
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Number of rodent control surveys	Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR)
Central and Western	4 306	4 881	27	3.6%
Eastern	7 430	2 450	47	6.0%
Southern	2 762	936	42	2.7%
Wan Chai	4 900	3 668	20	5.6%
Kowloon City	4 368	11 867	45	2.3%
Kwun Tong	6 390	1 291	42	4.3%
Wong Tai Sin	948	244	42	1.0%
Sham Shui Po	404	1 786	29	6.2%
Mong Kok	254	5 080	25	6.6%
Yau Tsim	133	3 047	25	2.8%
Sha Tin	2 308	8 810	45	2.6%
Tai Po	10 476	376	25	1.8%
North	2 257	360	47	1.9%
Kwai Tsing	1 545	138	45	3.6%
Tsuen Wan	3 624	3 265	45	4.7%
Tuen Mun	4 938	1 811	45	1.3%
Yuen Long	6 492	637	45	3.5%
Sai Kung	6 238	1 189	45	1.8%
Islands	348	2 602	25	3.3%
Overall	70 121	54 438	711*	3.5%

* Only surveys conducted in relation to Rodent Infestation Survey and Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 258) are not included in the breakdown.

District	2018			
	Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	Number of rodent trappings	Number of rodent control surveys	Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR)
Central and Western	4 432	4 772	45	3.6%
Eastern	18 699	2 480	45	2.1%
Southern	3 394	935	25	0.5%
Wan Chai	8 446	3 760	40	2.8%
Kowloon City	4 608	11 309	29	6.1%
Kwun Tong	6 587	1 876	42	5.8%
Wong Tai Sin	950	333	25	1.0%
Sham Shui Po	308	5 522	45	6.7%
Mong Kok	1 309	5 115	45	6.0%
Yau Tsim	201	3 216	25	2.4%
Sha Tin	4 548	9 167	25	4.7%
Tai Po	13 560	384	40	2.7%
North	3 232	424	42	2.5%
Kwai Tsing	1 457	569	42	1.0%
Tsuen Wan	3 182	4 176	42	5.1%
Tuen Mun	4 703	1 927	45	2.1%
Yuen Long	6 585	664	42	3.9%
Sai Kung	6 966	1 201	30	2.2%
Islands	648	2 602	25	1.4%
Overall	93 815	60 432	699#	3.4%

Only surveys conducted in relation to Rodent Infestation Survey and Rat-flea Survey are listed. Other rodent surveys (1 334) are not included in the breakdown.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)148

(Question Serial No. 2518)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In relation to “rolling out the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases”,

- please set out as per the table below the public toilets in the territory that are provided with attendant rooms or common rooms, areas of the attendant rooms or common rooms, the number of attendants and whether the public toilets are connected to other public facilities:

District	Location of public toilets	Whether attendant room or common room is provided		Area of attendant room or common room		Whether window is installed in the attendant room or common room		Number of attendants	Whether connected to other public facilities (such as refuse collection point)
		attendant room	common room	attendant room	common room	attendant room	common room		

- what is the estimated expenditure required for providing all public toilets with attendant rooms or common rooms?

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

Amongst the 799 public toilets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), 264 are provided with toilet attendants, of which 231 are provided with attendant rooms. A total of some 900 toilet attendants are employed by the Department's service contractors.

If circumstances permit, the Department will make available and improve the provisions of attendant rooms when the toilets are refurbished.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)149****(Question Serial No. 2519)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the indicator for “licensed hawkers”, please set out in the table below the number of various types of hawker licences.

Type		Number of fixed-pitch hawker licences	Number of itinerant hawker licences
“Cabinet-type” stall in 43 hawker areas			
“Hawker Permitted Place” stall in 43 hawker areas			
Other “Cabinet-type” stall			
Other “Hawker Permitted Place” stall			
Bootblack			
Cooked food or light refreshment	Dai Pai Tong		
	Others		
Newspaper			
Tradesman			
Barber			
Wall stall			
Hawker bazaar			
Itinerant (frozen confectionery)			
Itinerant (mobile van)			
Others			
Total:			

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)Reply:

The number of various types of hawker licences (as at 31 December 2018) is tabulated as follows -

Type		Number of fixed-pitch hawker licences	Number of itinerant hawker licences
“Cabinet-type” stall in 43 hawker areas		2 757	-
“Hawker Permitted Place” stall in 43 hawker areas		745	-
Other “Cabinet-type” stall		82	-
Other “Hawker Permitted Place” stall		30	-
Bootblack		6	-
Cooked food or light refreshment	Dai Pai Tong	23	-
	Others	94	-
Newspaper		386	2
Tradesman		125*	-
Barber		29	-
Wall stall		291	-
Hawker bazaar		580	-
Itinerant (frozen confectionery)		-	64
Itinerant (mobile van)		-	15
Others		-	302
Total:		5 148	383

*Excluding 41 Tradesman stalls in hawker areas.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)150****(Question Serial No. 2520)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the work to “issue new hawker licences for trading at suitable vacant fixed pitches”, the relevant Hawker Assistance Scheme for licensed fixed-pitch hawkers ended in June 2018.

- Please set out as per the table below the information on the applications under the assistance scheme:

Item	Number of eligible hawkers	Number of participating hawkers	Number of hawkers with applications approved	Expenditure required
Voluntary surrender of hawker licences				
Stall relocation				
In-situ stall reconstruction				

- Please set out as per the table below the number of applications for surrender of hawker licences under the assistance scheme and the number of vacant pitches:

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of successful cases of ex-gratia payment on surrender of hawker licences	Number of hawker pitches vacated due to other reasons	Number of vacant pitches for re-allocation
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street			
	Marble Street			
	Kam Wa Street			

	Tai Tak Street			
	Mong Lung Street			
	Subtotal			
Central and Western	Pottinger Street			
	Graham Street			
	Gage Street			
	Li Yuen Street East			
	Li Yuen Street West			
	Peel Street			
	Wing Kut Street			
	Upper Lascar Row			
	Man Wa Lane			
	Subtotal			
Wan Chai	Gresson Street			
	Cross Street			
	Tai Yuen Street			
	Jardine's Crescent			
	Subtotal			
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street			
	Pak Hoi Street			
	Saigon Street			
	Canton Road			
	Bowring Street			
	Temple Street			
	Subtotal			
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street			
	Canton Road			
	Fife Street			
	Yin Chong Street			
	Ki Lung Street			
	Poplar Street			
	Fa Yuen Street			
	Nelson Street			
	Subtotal			
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street			
	Fat Tseung Street			
	Cheung Fat Street			
	Fuk Wa Street			
	Fuk Wing Street			
	Pei Ho Street			
	Apliu Street			
	Ki Lung Street			
	Tai Nan Street			
	Kweilin Street			

	Subtotal			
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street			
	Subtotal			
	Total			

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 63)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annexes 1 and 2.

- End -

**Progress of the Hawker Assistance Scheme
(as at 31.12.2018)**

	Number of eligible hawkers	Number of participating hawkers	Number of hawkers with applications approved	Expenditure required
Voluntary surrender of hawker licences	4 200	854	854	\$102,480,000
Stall relocation and reconstruction	507	422	422 ¹	\$19,554,800
In-situ stall reconstruction	3 822	3 002	2 838 ¹ (164 applications being processed)	\$96,477,608

Remarks –

- ¹ Payment of relocation grant or in-situ reconstruction grant is subject to compliance with stall construction specifications and clearance of existing stall structure.

**Application for Ex-gratia Payment (EGP) under the Hawker Assistance Scheme
(as at 31.12.2018)**

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of successful cases of EGP applications on surrender of hawker licences	Number of vacant hawker pitches for re-allocation due to EGP¹	Number of hawker pitches vacated due to other reasons^{1,2}	Number of vacant pitches for re-allocation
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	19	1	0	1
	Marble Street	51	9	2	11
	Kam Wa Street	25	5	1	6
	Tai Tak Street	15	3	1	4
	Mong Lung Street	10	0	0	0
	Subtotal		120	18	4
Central and Western	Pottinger Street	7	2	1	3
	Graham Street	13	6	0	6
	Gage Street	4	0	0	0
	Li Yuen Street East	5	0	0	0
	Li Yuen Street West	5	0	0	0
	Peel Street	20	4	0	4
	Wing Kut Street	1	0	0	0
	Upper Lascar Row	1	0	1	1
	Man Wa Lane	1	0	0	0
	Subtotal		57	12	2
Wan Chai	Gresson Street	12	1	6	7
	Cross Street	2	0	2	2
	Tai Yuen Street	1	1	1	2
	Jardine's Crescent	25	7	15	22
	Subtotal		40	9	24

**Application for Ex-gratia Payment (EGP) under the Hawker Assistance Scheme
(as at 31.12.2018)**

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of successful cases of EGP applications on surrender of hawker licences	Number of vacant hawker pitches for re-allocation due to EGP¹	Number of hawker pitches vacated due to other reasons^{1,2}	Number of vacant pitches for re-allocation
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street	58	18	3	21
	Pak Hoi Street	3	0	0	0
	Saigon Street	4	0	0	0
	Canton Road	26	9	5	14
	Bowring Street	12	3	2	5
	Temple Street	83	67	2	69
	Subtotal	186	97	12	109
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street	190	25	3	28
	Canton Road	64	27	4	31
	Fife Street	15	6	2	8
	Yin Chong Street	13	4	0	4
	Ki Lung Street	16	5	0	5
	Poplar Street	8	2	1	3
	Fa Yuen Street	1	0	0	0
	Nelson Street	20	3	0	3
	Subtotal	327	72	10	82
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	34	12	25	37
	Fat Tseung Street	17	1	5	6
	Cheung Fat Street	23	5	9	14
	Fuk Wa Street	11	0	0	0
	Fuk Wing Street	1	0	1	1
	Pei Ho Street	7	1	0	1
	Apliu Street	12	3	1	4
	Ki Lung Street	7	2	0	2
	Tai Nan Street	1	0	0	0
	Kweilin Street	0	0	0	0
	Sub-total	113	24	41	65

**Application for Ex-gratia Payment (EGP) under the Hawker Assistance Scheme
(as at 31.12.2018)**

District	Location of fixed pitches	Number of successful cases of EGP applications on surrender of hawker licences	Number of vacant hawker pitches for re-allocation due to EGP¹	Number of hawker pitches vacated due to other reasons^{1,2}	Number of vacant pitches for re-allocation
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	11	5	13	18
	Subtotal	11	5	13	18
Other hawker streets / bazaar ³		N/A	N/A	N/A	82
Total		854	237	106	425

Remarks -

- ¹ Figures exclude hawker pitches located outside building staircase discharge points / emergency vehicular access, earmarked to accommodate stalls that require relocation due to fire safety considerations, absorbed in the course of rationalisation of the overall layout of hawker areas, etc. Fixed-pitches vacated for other reasons and reserved for various purposes such as resite commitments are also excluded.
- ² Reasons include the passing away of hawker licensees, non-renewal of hawker licences and voluntary surrender of licence outside the Hawker Assistance Scheme.
- ³ Hawker streets/bazaar outside 43 hawker areas under the Hawker Assistance Scheme.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)151

(Question Serial No. 2521)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the indicator for licensed hawkers, there was a decrease in the number of licensed hawkers in 2018 as compared to that in 2017. Besides, the Licensed Hawker Assistance Scheme ended in June 2018. In this connection,

a. please provide the relevant information in the table below:

District	Location of hawker areas	Number of hawker stalls	Number of ex-gratia payment applications	Number of relocation applications	Number of in-situ reconstruction applications	Take-up rate

b. please set out the number of licensed hawkers operating in the 43 fixed-pitch hawker areas before and after the implementation of the assistance scheme in the table below:

District	Location of fixed pitches	Before the implementation of the assistance scheme for hawker licensees			After the implementation of the assistance scheme for hawker licensees		
		Cabinet-type	HPP-type	Total	Cabinet-type	HPP-type	Total
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street						
	Marble Street						
	Kam Wa Street						
	Tai Tak Street						
	Mong Lung Street						
	Subtotal						

Central & Western	Pottinger Street						
	Graham Street						
	Gage Street						
	Li Yuen Street East						
	Li Yuen Street West						
	Peel Street						
	Wing Kut Street						
	Upper Lascar Row						
	Man Wa Lane						
	Subtotal						
Wan Chai	Gresson Street						
	Cross Street						
	Tai Yuen Street						
	Jardine's Crescent						
	Subtotal						
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street						
	Pak Hoi Street						
	Saigon Street						
	Canton Road						
	Bowring Street						
	Temple Street						
	Subtotal						
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street						
	Canton Road						
	Fife Street						
	Yin Chong Street						
	Ki Lung Street						
	Poplar Street						
	Fa Yuen Street						
	Nelson Street						
	Subtotal						
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street						

	Fat Tseung Street						
	Cheung Fat Street						
	Fuk Wa Street						
	Fuk Wing Street						
	Pei Ho Street						
	Apliu Street						
	Ki Lung Street						
	Tai Nan Street						
	Kweilin Street						
	Subtotal						
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street						
	Subtotal						
Total no. of stalls							

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annexes 1 and 2.

- End -

**Take-up Rate of the Hawker Assistance Scheme
(as at 28.2.2019)**

District	Location of Hawker Areas	Number of Hawker Stalls# (a)	Number of Ex-gratia Payment Applications (b)	Number of Relocation Applications (c)	Number of In-situ Re-construction Applications (d)	Take-up Rate (e) = [(b)+(c)+(d)]/(a)
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	93	19	7	66	98.9%
	Marble Street	120	51	13	56	100.0%
	Kam Wa Street	110	25	8	43	69.1%
	Tai Tak Street	36	15	1	16	88.9%
	Mong Lung Street	14	10	0	4	100.0%
	Sub-total	373	120	29	185	89.5%
Central and Western	Pottinger Street	45	7	1	37	100.0%
	Graham Street	56	13	6	37	100.0%
	Gage Street	15	4	0	11	100.0%
	Li Yuen Street East	63	5	12	46	100.0%
	Li Yuen Street West	58	5	20	33	100.0%
	Peel Street	45	20	2	23	100.0%
	Wing Kut Street	33	1	6	26	100.0%
	Upper Lascar Row	13	1	0	12	100.0%
	Man Wa Lane	32	1	2	29	100.0%
	Sub-total	360	57	49	254	100.0%
Wan Chai	Gresson Street	52	12	2	38	100.0%
	Cross Street	70	2	7	60	98.6%
	Tai Yuen Street	76	1	5	70	100.0%
	Jardine's Crescent	167	25	34	107	99.4%
	Sub-total	365	40	48	275	99.5%

District	Location of Hawker Areas	Number of Hawker Stalls[#] (a)	Number of Ex-gratia Payment Applications (b)	Number of Relocation Applications (c)	Number of In-situ Re-construction Applications (d)	Take-up Rate (e) = [(b)+(c)+(d)]/(a)
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street	233	58	28	147	100.0%
	Pak Hoi Street	16	3	1	11	93.8%
	Saigon Street	19	4	1	14	100.0%
	Canton Road	38	26	1	11	100.0%
	Bowring Street	99	12	9	78	100.0%
	Temple Street	322	83	5	234	100.0%
	Sub-total	727	186	45	495	99.9%
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street	687	190	0	497	100.0%
	Canton Road	318	64	34	220	100.0%
	Fife Street	34	15	2	17	100.0%
	Yin Chong Street	78	13	10	54	98.7%
	Ki Lung Street	22	16	2	4	100.0%
	Poplar Street	12	8	1	3	100.0%
	Fa Yuen Street	219	1	30	188	100.0%
	Nelson Street	63	20	3	39	98.4%
	Sub-total	1 433	327	82	1 022	99.9%
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	72	34	4	34	100.0%
	Fat Tseung Street	47	17	5	25	100.0%
	Cheung Fat Street	65	23	3	39	100.0%
	Fuk Wa Street	167	11	33	123	100.0%
	Fuk Wing Street	39	1	8	30	100.0%
	Pei Ho Street	153	7	14	132	100.0%

District	Location of Hawker Areas	Number of Hawker Stalls[#] (a)	Number of Ex-gratia Payment Applications (b)	Number of Relocation Applications (c)	Number of In-situ Re-construction Applications (d)	Take-up Rate (e) = [(b)+(c)+(d)]/(a)
Sham Shui Po (cont'd)	Apliu Street	221	12	51	153	97.7%
	Ki Lung Street	133	7	21	105	100.0%
	Tai Nan Street	61	1	13	47	100.0%
	Kweilin Street	59	0	8	50	98.3%
	Sub-total	1 017	113	160	738	99.4%
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	54	11	9	33	98.1%
	Sub-total	54	11	9	33	98.1%
	Total	4 329	854	422	3 002	98.8%

The number of hawker stalls takes into account changes outside the scope of the Hawker Assistance Scheme, including the passing away of licensees, licences surrendered but licensees not being eligible for ex-gratia payment, relocation of hawker stalls and succession of licences.

**Licensed Hawkers Operating in the 43 Fixed-pitch Hawker Areas
before and after Implementation of the Hawker Assistance Scheme**

District	Hawker Area	Number of hawkers before implementation of the Scheme			Number of hawkers after implementation of the Scheme ¹ (as at 28.2.2019)		
		Cabinet -type	HPP- type ²	Total	Cabinet -type	HPP- type ²	Total
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street	93	0	93	74	0	74
	Marble Street	124	0	124	69	0	69
	Kam Wa Street	20	91	111	85	0	85
	Tai Tak Street	26	2	28	21	0	21
	Mong Lung Street	4	17	21	4	0	4
	Subtotal	267	110	377	253	0	253
Central & Western	Pottinger Street	47	0	47	36	0	36
	Graham Street	35	20	55	43	0	43
	Gage Street	15	0	15	11	0	11
	Li Yuen Street East	63	0	63	58	0	58
	Li Yuen Street West	58	0	58	53	0	53
	Peel Street	36	7	43	25	0	25
	Wing Kut Street	32	2	34	32	0	32
	Upper Lascar Row	13	0	13	12	0	12
	Man Wa Lane	32	0	32	31	0	31
Subtotal	331	29	360	301	0	301	
Wan Chai	Gresson Street	46	5	51	40	0	40
	Cross Street	60	11	71	67	0	67
	Tai Yuen Street	5	71	76	74	0	74
	Jardine's Crescent	162	0	162	142	0	142
	Subtotal	273	87	360	323	0	323
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street	189	44	233	172	0	172
	Pak Hoi Street	7	9	16	13	0	13
	Saigon Street	19	0	19	15	0	15
	Canton Road	32	4	36	12	0	12
	Bowring Street	100	0	100	86	0	86
	Temple Street	34	289	323	33	202	235
	Subtotal	381	346	727	331	202	533
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street	0	698	698	0	497	497
	Canton Road	317	0	317	253	0	253
	Fife Street	29	0	29	19	0	19
	Yin Chong Street	78	0	78	65	0	65
	Ki Lung Street	20	0	20	6	0	6
	Poplar Street	12	0	12	4	0	4
	Fa Yuen Street	220	0	220	219	0	219
	Nelson Street	0	63	63	0	43	43
	Subtotal	676	761	1 437	566	540	1 106

District	Hawker Area	Number of hawkers before implementation of the Scheme			Number of hawkers after implementation of the Scheme ¹ (as at 28.2.2019)		
		Cabinet -type	HPP-type ²	Total	Cabinet -type	HPP-type ²	Total
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street	5	66	71	38	0	38
	Fat Tseung Street	27	20	47	30	0	30
	Cheung Fat Street	54	11	65	42	0	42
	Fuk Wa Street	166	0	166	156	0	156
	Fuk Wing Street	0	40	40	37	0	37
	Pei Ho Street	124	30	154	146	0	146
	Apliu Street	179	42	221	208	0	208
	Ki Lung Street	39	96	135	125	0	125
	Tai Nan Street	2	61	63	60	0	60
	Kweilin Street	0	58	58	59	0	59
		Subtotal	596	424	1 020	901	0
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street	54	0	54	42	0	42
	Subtotal	54	0	54	42	0	42
	Total	2 578	1 757	4 335	2 717	742	3 459

¹ The number of hawkers has taken into account changes as a result of the passing away of licensees, surrender of licences, relocation of hawkers and succession of licences.

² Hawker Permitted Place-type.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)152****(Question Serial No. 2523)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the work to “continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations”,

- a. please set out in the table below the population, as well as the number of markets (with a breakdown by operator), supermarkets and fresh provision shops, in Tin Shui Wai, Tung Chung, Ma On Shan and Tseung Kwan O.

District	Population	No. of markets				No. of supermarkets	No. of fresh provision shops
		FEHD	Link REIT	Housing Authority	Private developer(s)		
Tin Shui Wai							
Tung Chung							
Ma On Shan							
Tseung Kwan O							

- b. please set out in the table below the population, as well as the number of markets (with a breakdown by operator), supermarkets and fresh provision shops, in each of the districts.

District	Population	No. of markets				No. of supermarkets	No. of fresh provision shops
		FEHD	Link REIT	Housing Authority	Private developer(s)		
Central and Western							
Eastern							
Southern							
Wan Chai							
Kowloon City							
Kwun Tong							
Wong Tai							

Sin							
Sham Shui Po							
Mong Kok							
Yau Tsim							
Sha Tin							
Tai Po							
North							
Kwai Tsing							
Tsuen Wan							
Tuen Mun							
Yuen Long							
Sai Kung							
Islands							
Total							

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 66)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annexes I and II respectively.

- End -

District	Population ¹	No. of markets				No. of supermarkets ⁴	No. of licensed fresh provision shops ⁵
		FEHD	Link REIT ²	Housing Authority ³	Private developer(s)		
Tin Shui Wai	286 232	-	4	1	-	13	83
Tung Chung ⁶	86 392	-	2	1	-	9	38
Ma On Shan	209 714	-	3	-	3	17	81
Tseung Kwan O	398 479	-	5	-	5	24	129

¹ Based on 2016 Population By-Census data provided by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD).

² According to the information on the website of the Link REIT.

³ According to the information on the website of the Housing Authority (HA).

⁴ Based on the information provided by C&SD.

⁵ Selling fresh, chilled or frozen beef, mutton, pork, reptiles, fish or poultry.

⁶ There is no official geographical demarcation for "Tung Chung" in population censuses/by-censuses conducted by C&SD. The figure refers to population in new town of North Lantau.

District	Population ¹	No. of markets				No. of supermarkets ⁵	No. of licensed fresh provision shops ⁶
		FEHD ²	Link REIT ³	Housing Authority ⁴	Private developer(s)		
Central and Western	243 266	5	-	-	-	59	118
Eastern	555 034	8	2	-	2	76	183
Southern	274 994	5	2	2	1	37	89
Wan Chai	180 123	6	-	-	-	31	89
Kowloon City	418 732	4	2	1	-	51	144
Kwun Tong	648 541	4	8	1	4	63	273
Wong Tai Sin	425 235	4	6	2	-	37	139
Sham Shui Po	405 869	4	-	3	1	44	145
Mong Kok	342 970	2	-	-	1	38	139
Yau Tsim		3	-	-	-	39	79
Sha Tin	659 794	2	12	2	7	68	250
Tai Po	303 926	2	5	-	-	33	104
North	315 270	4	3	-	2	33	58
Kwai Tsing	520 572	3	1	5	9	55	169
Tsuen Wan	318 916	4	-	2	2	44	98
Tuen Mun	489 299	3	8	2	3	43	175
Yuen Long	614 178	5	5	2	1	55	205
Sai Kung	461 864	2	5	-	5	41	154
Islands	156 801	4	2	1	-	16	58
Total	7 335 384	74	61	23	38	863	2 669

¹ Based on 2016 Population By-Census data provided by C&SD.

² The figures include markets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department with wet market facilities. Standalone cooked food markets are excluded.

³ According to the information on the website of the Link REIT.

⁴ According to the information on the website of HA.

⁵ Based on the information provided by C&SD.

⁶ Selling fresh, chilled or frozen beef, mutton, pork, reptiles, fish or poultry.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)153

(Question Serial No. 2524)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to “continue the comprehensive review on public markets, with a view to formulating concrete improvement proposals for the management of public markets”, please provide information on:

- the population and the number of public markets in each district as per the table below:

District	Population	No. of public markets	Name of public market
Central & Western			
Eastern			
Southern			
Wan Chai			
Kowloon City			
Kwun Tong			
Wong Tai Sin			
Sham Shui Po			
Mong Kok			
Yau Tsim			
Sha Tin			
Tai Po			
North			
Kwai Tsing			
Tsuen Wan			

Tuen Mun			
Yuen Long			
Sai Kung			
Islands			
Total			

- the year of commissioning, current number of stalls and occupancy rate of individual public markets (listed by air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned markets) in the territory.

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 67)

Reply:

The information sought is given in Annexes I and II respectively.

- End -

District	Population^a	No. of Public Markets^b	Name of Public Markets^b
Central & Western	243 266	6	Shek Tong Tsui Market Sheung Wan Market Smithfield Market Centre Street Market Sai Ying Pun Market Queen Street Cooked Food Market
Eastern	555 034	9	North Point Market Electric Road Market Quarry Bay Market Yue Wan Market Java Road Market Sai Wan Ho Market Aldrich Bay Market Chai Wan Market Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market
Southern	274 994	6	Yue Kwong Road Market Tin Wan Market Aberdeen Market Apleichau Market Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market Stanley Waterfront Mart
Wan Chai	180 123	6	Wanchai Market Bowrington Road Market Lockhart Road Market Wong Nai Chung Market Tang Lung Chau Market Causeway Bay Market
Kowloon City	418 732	4	Kowloon City Market Hung Hom Market Tokwawan Market On Ching Road Flower Market

District	Population^a	No. of Public Markets^b	Name of Public Markets^b
Kwun Tong	648 541	8	Ngau Tau Kok Market Shui Wo Street Market Yee On Street Market Lei Yue Mun Market Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market
Wong Tai Sin	425 235	4	Ngau Chi Wan Market Sheung Fung Street Market Choi Hung Road Market Tai Shing Street Market
Sham Shui Po	405 869	5	Po On Road Market Pei Ho Street Market Lai Wan Market Tung Chau Street Temporary Market Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market
Mong Kok	342 970	3	Fa Yuen Street Market Tai Kok Tsui Market Mong Kok Cooked Food Market
Yau Tsim		3	Yau Ma Tei Market Kwun Chung Market Haiphong Road Temporary Market
Sha Tin	659 794	4	Sha Tin Market Tai Wai Market Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market
Tai Po	303 926	2	Tai Po Hui Market Plover Cove Road Market

District	Population^a	No. of Public Markets^b	Name of Public Markets^b
North	315 270	4	Shek Wu Hui Market Luen Wo Hui Market Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre Sha Tau Kok Market
Kwai Tsing	520 572	7	Wing Fong Street Market Tsing Yi Market North Kwai Chung Market Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market Ka Ting Cooked Food Market Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market
Tsuen Wan	318 916	5	Yeung Uk Road Market Tsuen Wan Market Heung Che Street Market Sham Tseng Temporary Market Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market
Tuen Mun	489 299	6	Yan Oi Market San Hui Market Lam Tei Market Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market Kin Wing Cooked Food Market Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market
Yuen Long	614 178	8	Tung Yick Market Tai Kiu Market Hung Shui Kiu Market Kam Tin Market Lau Fau Shan Market Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market

District	Population^a	No. of Public Markets^b	Name of Public Markets^b
Sai Kung	461 864	2	Sai Kung Market Tui Min Hoi Market
Islands	156 801	6	Mui Wo Market Cheung Chau Market Tai O Market Peng Chau Market Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market Mui Wo Cooked Food Market
Total	7 335 384	98	

^a Based on “Hong Kong 2016 Population By-census - Key Statistics” published by the Census and Statistics Department in February 2017.

^b Listed in the table are public markets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department only. They represent one of the avenues through which the community can procure daily provisions. Other avenues include, for example, supermarkets, on-street markets, provision shops on private premises and markets in home-ownership and public rental developments.

Serial No.	Name of Market	Year of Commissioning	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls as at 31 December 2018	Occupancy rate ^a as at 31 December 2018
1	Aldrich Bay Market	2008	Yes	71	92%
2	Apleichau Market	1998	Yes	63	97%
3	Centre Street Market	1976	Yes	46	76%
4	Chai Wan Market	2001	Yes	174	92%
5	Lei Yue Mun Market	2000	Yes	20	95%
6	Luen Wo Hui Market	2002	Yes	338	99%
7	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	2005	Yes	14	100%
8	Peng Chau Market	1999	Yes	18	100%
9	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	2004	Yes	11	100%
10	Sai Ying Pun Market	1999	Yes	102	87%
11	San Hui Market	1982	Yes	324	98%
12	Sha Tin Market	1980	Yes	172	99%
13	Shek Wu Hui Market	1994	Yes	393	100%
14	Tai Kiu Market	1984	Yes	379	97%
15	Tai Kok Tsui Market	2005	Yes	135	97%
16	Tai Po Hui Market	2004	Yes	313	100%
17	Tsing Yi Market	1999	Yes	76	99%
18	Wanchai Market	2008	Yes	50	100%
19	Yan Oi Market	1983	Yes	108	94%
20	Yee On Street Market	1999	Yes	65	92%
21	Yue Wan Market	1979	Yes	380	94%
22	Bowrington Road Market	1979	Yes in CFC only	296	93%
23	Hung Hom Market	1996	Yes in CFC only	224	98%
24	Java Road Market	1993	Yes in CFC only	194	94%
25	Lockhart Road Market	1987	Yes in CFC only	166	74%
26	Pei Ho Street Market	1995	Yes in CFC only	234	99%
27	Sai Wan Ho Market	1984	Yes in CFC only	274	98%
28	Sheung Wan Market	1989	Yes in CFC only	223	98%

Serial No.	Name of Market	Year of Commissioning	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls as at 31 December 2018	Occupancy rate^a as at 31 December 2018
29	Smithfield Market	1996	Yes in CFC only	216	99%
30	Tai Shing Street Market	1998	Yes in CFC only	442	93%
31	Tokwawan Market	1984	Yes in CFC only	267	97%
32	Wong Nai Chung Market	1996	Yes in CFC only	69	96%
33	Aberdeen Market	1983	No	335	96%
34	Causeway Bay Market	1995	No	51	96%
35	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	1979	No	32	88%
36	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	1991	No	17	100%
37	Cheung Chau Market	1991	No	240	98%
38	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	1982	No	28	39%
39	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	1987	No	12	100%
40	Choi Hung Road Market	1988	No	116	66%
41	Electric Road Market	1993	No	99	81%
42	Fa Yuen Street Market	1988	No	180	92%
43	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	1982	No	24	100%
44	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	1982	No	15	100%
45	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	1978	No	86	69%
46	Heung Che Street Market	1972	No	225	95%
47	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	1979	No	11	91%
48	Hung Shui Kiu Market	1987	No	172	72%
49	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	1983	No	15	60%
50	Kam Tin Market	1964	No	41	100%

Serial No.	Name of Market	Year of Commissioning	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls as at 31 December 2018	Occupancy rate^a as at 31 December 2018
51	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	1981	No	14	100%
52	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	1979	No	17	100%
53	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	1985	No	14	100%
54	Kowloon City Market	1988	No	581	95%
55	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	1986	No	11	100%
56	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	1990	No	11	91%
57	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	1985	No	98	100%
58	Kwun Chung Market	1991	No	218	85%
59	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	1984	No	29	97%
60	Lai Wan Market	1992	No	42	98%
61	Lam Tei Market	1969	No	7	100%
62	Lau Fau Shan Market	1964	No	25	88%
63	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	1985	No	20	100%
64	Mui Wo Market	1993	No	35	91%
65	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	1987	No	28	82%
66	Ngau Chi Wan Market	1986	No	402	87%
67	Ngau Tau Kok Market	1981	No	466	86%
68	North Kwai Chung Market	1984	No	222	91%
69	North Point Market	1970	No	42	83%
70	On Ching Road Flower Market	1979	No	13	100%
71	Plover Cove Road Market	1991	No	244	82%
72	Po On Road Market	1988	No	449	89%
73	Quarry Bay Market	1988	No	113	69%
74	Sai Kung Market	1985	No	209	91%
75	Sha Tau Kok Market	1998	No	66	100%

Serial No.	Name of Market	Year of Commissioning	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls as at 31 December 2018	Occupancy rate ^a as at 31 December 2018
76	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	1984	No	29	90%
77	Shek Tong Tsui Market	1991	No	151	91%
78	Sheung Fung Street Market	1989	No	71	99%
79	Shui Wo Street Market	1988	No	302	98%
80	Stanley Waterfront Mart	2007	No	20	85%
81	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	1980	No	17	82%
82	Tai O Market	1989	No	26	88%
83	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	1985	No	18	100%
84	Tai Wai Market	1985	No	195	85%
85	Tang Lung Chau Market	1963	No	34	94%
86	Tin Wan Market	1979	No	180	96%
87	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	1983	No	18	100%
88	Tsuen Wan Market	1981	No	381	89%
89	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	1985	No	56	93%
90	Tui Min Hoi Market	1983	No	34	56%
91	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	1992	No	359	32%
92	Tung Yick Market	1991	No	446	41%
93	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	1983	No	8	100%
94	Wing Fong Street Market	1982	No	114	85%
95	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	1984	No	18	100%
96	Yau Ma Tei Market	1957	No	144	90%
97	Yeung Uk Road Market	1990	No	318	96%
98	Yue Kwong Road Market	1981	No	197	87%

^a Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

Remarks : CFC – Cooked Food Centre in public market

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)154

(Question Serial No. 2525)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the indicators for licensed hawkers, please provide information on the following:

- the number of fixed pitch hawkers, itinerant hawkers and registered hawker assistants, as well as the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers, in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016 to 2018), with a breakdown by district and trade category.

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

- End -

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers, Registered Assistants and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers
(Position as at 31.12.2016)

	Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands								Total	
	Central & Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung		Islands
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence																			
Barber	2	4	0	1	11	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
Bootblack	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	3	0	2	31	22	6	9	23	13	9	7	0	0	4	21	0	1	161
Newspaper	64	48	32	4	106	23	21	15	37	11	18	8	14	6	6	1	2	1	417
Tradesman	81	15	13	0	52	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	166
Wall Stall	29	20	11	14	133	52	28	2	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	309
Other Classes	395	334	273	30	2 194	914	47	0	124	0	93	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 407
Itinerant Hawker Licence																			
Frozen Confectionary	34									30								64	
Mobile Van	9									6								15	
Newspaper	2									0								2	
Other Classes	156									178								334	
Registered Hawker Assistants	552	572	381	57	2 121	1 139	112	33	215	22	146	26	19	14	9	22	1	3	5 444
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers	143	16	48	42	295	388	64	49	79	63	6	51	22	72	29	31	16	16	1 454 [#] (1 430+24)

[#]The figure includes 24 unlicensed hawkers in housing estates as provided by Housing Department.

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers, Registered Assistants and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers
(Position as at 31.12.2017)

	Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands									Total
	Central & Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence																			
Barber	2	4	0	1	11	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
Bootblack	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	2	0	2	30	22	4	7	17	13	9	7	0	0	0	21	0	1	145
Newspaper	60	47	32	4	103	23	20	14	36	9	17	8	14	6	6	1	2	1	403
Tradesman	75	15	13	0	50	2	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	161
Wall Stall	28	20	11	14	131	49	27	2	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	302
Other Classes	392	333	266	28	2 100	910	46	0	123	0	93	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 294
Itinerant Hawker Licence																			
Frozen Confectionary	34									30									64
Mobile Van	9									6									15
Newspaper	2									0									2
Other Classes	146									172									318
Registered Hawker Assistants	540	576	378	57	2 091	1 165	109	31	209	20	149	23	20	14	7	23	1	3	5 416
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers	141	39	48	33	301	460	61	16	63	63	2	45	28	62	23	52	10	18	1 474 [#] (1 465+9)

[#]The figure includes 9 unlicensed hawkers in housing estates as provided by Housing Department.

No. of Licensed Fixed Pitch and Itinerant Hawkers, Registered Assistants and Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers
(Position as at 31.12.2018)

	Hong Kong Island & Kowloon									New Territories & Islands									Total
	Central & Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Southern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Wong Tai Sin	Kwun Tong	Kwai Tsing	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	North	Tai Po	Sha Tin	Sai Kung	Islands	
Fixed Pitch Hawker Licence																			
Barber	2	4	0	1	11	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
Bootblack	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Cooked Food/Light Refreshment	10	2	0	2	19	20	2	3	14	12	9	5	0	0	0	18	0	1	117
Newspaper	58	46	32	4	100	22	19	12	33	9	16	7	12	6	6	1	2	1	386
Tradesman	73	15	11	0	49	2	3	0	6	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	166
Wall Stall	24	20	10	14	127	48	27	2	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	291
Other Classes	386	330	255	28	1 997	900	44	0	119	0	91	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4 153
Itinerant Hawker Licence																			
Frozen Confectionary	34									30									64
Mobile Van	9									6									15
Newspaper	2									0									2
Other Classes	139									163									302
Registered Hawker Assistants	526	569	366	55	2 200	1 161	106	25	196	17	137	17	17	14	7	20	1	3	5 437
Estimated No. of Unlicensed Hawkers	142	41	59	30	273	523	61	15	63	61	3	44	36	57	22	46	17	16	1 511 [#] (1 509+2)

[#]The figure includes 2 unlicensed hawkers in housing estates as provided by Housing Department.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)155

(Question Serial No. 2526)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the work of “managing licensed hawker pitches, hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars”, please advise on:

- the location, name, year of commissioning, number of stalls that can be accommodated, current number of stalls and vacancy rate of each of the existing licensed hawker pitches, hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars in the territory, with a breakdown by district; and
- whether there are plans to close any of the hawker permitted places or hawker bazaars; if yes, the details and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

1. Information on the number of licensed on-street hawker pitches, number of vacant hawker pitches and relevant vacancy rates in the territory is provided at Annex I.

Information on the name, year of commencement, number of licensed hawker pitches, number of vacant hawker pitches and vacancy rate for each of the hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars in the territory is provided at Annexes II and III respectively.

2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has no plan to close any of the hawker permitted places. For hawker bazaars, the Department recognises a need to formulate exit plans for bazaars with high vacancy rates to ensure that scarce land resources are released for redevelopment and put to gainful use. It will actively formulate improvement or exit plans for existing hawker bazaars, having regard to their business viability, the needs of the community, resource availability and

competing priorities. Since 2015, the Department has closed Tai Lin Pai Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar, Yu Chau West Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar, Ma Kok Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar and Luen Yan Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar, and is planning to close Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar. The Department will continue to explore whether other hawker bazaars with high vacancy rates can be put to alternative uses. There is no breakdown on the expenditure involved.

- End -

**On-street hawker fixed pitches
(as at December 2018)**

District	Number of on-street fixed pitches		Vacancy rate (b) / ((a)+(b))
	Licensed (a)	Vacant* (b)	
Central and Western	559	20	3.5%
Wanchai	417	59	12.4%
Eastern	308	22	6.7%
Southern	29	0	0%
Islands	2	0	0%
Yau Tsim	687	111	13.9%
Mong Kok	1 251	83	6.2%
Sham Shui Po	987	65	6.2%
Kowloon City	93	18	16.2%
Wong Tai Sin	14	0	0%
Kwun Tong	61	0	0%
Kwai Tsing	9	0	0%
Tsuen Wan	16	0	0%
Tuen Mun	17	0	0%
Yuen Long	12	0	0%
North	6	0	0%
Tai Po	6	0	0%
Shatin	1	0	0%
Sai Kung	2	0	0%
Total	4 477	378	7.8%

Note:

- * The figures represent the numbers of on-street hawker pitches (including pitches in Hawker Permitted Places) suitable for re-allocation. They do not include pitches with a higher risk which are unsuitable for setting up stalls, including pitches located within a radial distance of 6 metres in front of building staircase discharge points and within 1.5 metres of fire hydrants/ located at emergency vehicular access, earmarked to accommodate stalls that require relocation due to fire safety considerations, absorbed in the course of rationalisation of the overall layout of hawker areas, and reserved for resite commitments due to other needs.

**Hawker fixed pitches
in hawker permitted places
(as at December 2018)**

District	Serial No.	Hawker Permitted Place	Year of Commencement	Number of fixed-pitches		Vacancy rate (b) / ((a)+(b))
				Licensed [#] (a)	Vacant* (b)	
Eastern	1	Kam Wa Street / Aldrich Street	1981	60	4	6.3%
	2	Mong Lung Street	1981	1	0	0%
	3	Tai Tak Street	1981	0	1	100.0%
Sub-total				61	5	7.6%
Wanchai	4	Gresson Street	1980	4	0	0%
	5	Tai Yuen Street	1980	69	2	2.8%
	6	Cross Street / Sam Pan Street	1991	10	2	16.7%
Sub-total				83	4	4.6%
Central and Western	7	Findlay Road	1999	4	1	20.0%
	8	Chiu Lung Street (East)	1999	9	0	0%
	9	Gilman's Bazaar	1985	3	1	25.0%
	10	Graham Street	1980	14	4	22.2%
	11	MacDonnell Road	1980	1	0	0%
	12	Peel Street	1980	2	4	66.7%
	13	Staunton Street	1980	0	0	0%
	14	Wing Kut Street	1980	2	0	0%
	15	Wing On Street	1980	3	0	0%
Sub-total				38	10	20.8%
Southern	16	Waterfall Bay Park	1980	10	0	0%
Sub-total				10	0	0%
Yau Tsim	17	Reclamation Street	1981	28	6	17.6%
	18	Pak Hoi Street	1981	6	0	0%
	19	Temple Street	1981	202	69	25.5%
	20	Canton Road	1993	1	0	0%
	21	Pitt Street	1994	0	0	0%
Sub-total				237	75	24.0%

District	Serial No.	Hawker Permitted Place	Year of Commencement	Number of fixed pitches		Vacancy rate (b) / ((a)+(b))
				Licensed [#] (a)	Vacant* (b)	
Sham Shui Po	22	Wing Lung Street	1975	35	36	50.7%
	23	Fat Tseung Street	1975	13	5	27.8%
	24	Cheung Fat Street	1975	8	9	52.9%
	25	Apliu Street	1978	41	0	0%
	26	Fuk Wing Street	1993	37	1	2.6%
	27	Kweilin Street	1993	59	0	0%
	28	Ki Lung Street	1993	89	2	2.2%
	29	Pei Ho Street	1993	27	1	3.6%
	30	Tai Nan Street	1993	59	0	0%
Sub-total				368	54	12.8%
Mong Kok	31	Tung Choi Street	1979	497	28	5.3%
	32	Cheung Wong Road	1979	2	0	0%
	33	Nelson Street	1979	43	3	6.5%
	34	Nam Tau Street	1979	1	1	50.0%
Sub-total				543	32	5.6%
Total				1 340	180	11.8%

Note :

[#] All licensed hawker pitches along the subject streets are counted.

* The figures represent the numbers of hawker pitches in Hawker Permitted Places suitable for re-allocation. They do not include pitches with a higher risk which are unsuitable for setting up stalls, including pitches located within a radial distance of 6 metres in front of building staircase discharge points and within 1.5 metres of fire hydrants/located at emergency vehicular access, earmarked to accommodate stalls that require relocation due to fire safety considerations, absorbed in the course of rationalisation of the overall layout of hawker areas, and reserved for resite commitments due to other needs.

**Hawker fixed pitches in
hawker bazaars
(as at December 2018)**

District	Serial No.	Hawker Bazaar [^]	Year of Commencement	Number of fixed pitches		Vacancy Rate
				Licensed	Vacant*	
				(a)	(b)	(b) / ((a)+(b))
Southern	1	Stanley Market Open Space Hawker Bazaar	1972	20	4	16.7%
Yau Tsim	2	Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar [#]	1978	0	20	100.0%
	3	Reclamation Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1976	4	8	66.7%
	4	Woosung Street Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1984	15	9	37.5%
	5	Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone A)	1985	58	0	0.0%
	6	Yau Ma Tei Jade Hawker Bazaar (Zone B)	1985	288	0	0.0%
Shum Shui Po	7	Yen Chow Street Hawker Bazaar	1978	3	0	0.0%
Kwun Tong	8	Lai Yip Street Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1976	4	6	60.0%
	9	Tung Yan Street Interim Hawker Bazaar	2014	119	6	4.8%
Tsuen Wan	10	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	1980	91	47	34.1%
Kwai Tsing	11	Kwai Wing Road Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar	1972	5	15	75.0%
Tuen Mun	12	Lam Tei Market cum Hawker Bazaar	1969	4	0	0.0%
Total				611	115	15.8%

Note: [^] Excluding a hawker bazaar closed in March 2019.

* Frozen pitches reserved for various purposes such as resite commitments are excluded.

Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar is temporarily closed for refurbishment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)156

(Question Serial No. 2548)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) set up by the Department with the Buildings Department (BD) for abating environmental nuisances relating to dripping air-conditioners and water seepage, please advise this Committee on:

- a) the proportion of staff deployed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the BD in JO;
- b) the distribution of responsibilities between staff of the two departments in JO; and
- c) the number of water seepage complaint cases received and successfully dealt with by JO in each of the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon HO Kai-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

- a) The manpower to be deployed by the Buildings Department (BD) and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to operate the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) in 2019-20 is as follows –

	2019-20
Number of professional and technical staff in BD (excluding outsourced consultants)	82
Number of investigation and coordinating staff in FEHD	237

- b) Generally speaking, JO's investigation of water seepage cases is carried out in 3 stages. FEHD's staff are responsible for the work in Stage I (confirmation of water

seepage conditions) and Stage II (initial investigation including colour water tests of drainage pipes or reversible pressure tests for water supply pipes). If the source of seepage cannot be identified during Stage II investigation, Stage III investigation (professional investigation) will be pursued by BD. At Stage III, BD engages outsourced consultants to assist in carrying out detailed investigation including moisture monitoring at seepage locations, ponding test for floor slabs, water spray test on walls and reversible pressure test for water supply pipes to identify the source of water seepage. On a pilot basis, BD consultants are deploying technologies, such as infrared thermography and microwave tomography, to identify the source of water seepage in some selected cases. If the source of seepage can be identified in any stage of investigation, FEHD's staff will issue "nuisance notice" in accordance with the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to the responsible party demanding abatement of the nuisance within a specified period.

- c) Statistics on water seepage reports received and reports handled in the past 3 years are provided as follows –

Number of Cases	2016	2017	2018
Reports received	36 376	36 002	37 684
Cases screened out ⁽¹⁾	13 196	14 732	14 571
Cases with seepage ceased during investigation	5 385	5 448	4 757
Cases with source of water seepage identified	6 846	6 253	5 729
Cases with source of water seepage not identified and investigation terminated	3 721	4 172	3 164

Note (1) : These include unjustified cases and withdrawn cases.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)157

(Question Serial No. 1100)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With the rapid increase in population in rural areas in recent years, the demand for refuse disposal and refuse collection points (RCPs) has increased. RCPs are often full and quite a few people even deposit refuse outside the RCPs. Worse still, the service contractors of the Government have not stepped up the cleansing services for public places in response to the increasing quantity of waste, resulting in poor environmental hygiene conditions in rural areas. Meanwhile, the existing semi-enclosed RCPs commonly found in quite a number of rural areas are likely to give rise to environmental hygiene problems such as stench and rodent infestation. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. the current number and distribution of RCPs in rural areas and, among them, the number of those which were set up in the past 5 years;
2. whether the Government had allocated resources and the amount so allocated in the past 5 years for carrying out upgrading and refurbishment works for the existing RCPs;
3. the current number of RCPs in rural areas for which such works have yet to be carried out;
4. whether the Government will, making reference to the design of mini-RCPs in the community of Macau, consider reconstructing existing semi-enclosed mini-RCPs in rural areas into fully-enclosed ones, so as to reduce the stench and environmental hygiene problems.

Asked by: Hon HO Kwan-yiu, Junius (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

1. As at 31 December 2018, there were 830 village-type refuse collection points (RCPs)/RCPs with temporary structures managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) and located in rural areas, i.e. in the New

Territories and on outlying islands. Among them, 38 were set up in the past 5 years. The distribution of these facilities is listed as follows –

District	No. of village-type RCPs/RCPs with temporary structures
Kwai Tsing	21
Tsuen Wan	47
Tuen Mun	54
Yuen Long	201
North	153
Tai Po	77
Sha Tin	54
Sai Kung	132
Islands	91

2. In the past 5 years, the Department replaced all remaining fiberglass RCPs (170 in total) by aluminium RCPs at a total expenditure of about \$8.6 million. The latter have a better outlook, make cleansing easier and are more durable.

- 3&4. The Department is trying out solar-powered aluminium RCPs in rural areas in place of existing aluminium ones to improve the hygiene conditions. The trial scheme will include installation of solar panels for energy supply and sensor-operated openings of the aluminium RCPs. Ventilation, illumination and fly-killing facilities will also be installed. The trial scheme is expected to be carried out from April to June 2019. If the trial proves satisfactory, the Department will consider extending the scheme to other RCPs in rural areas.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)158

(Question Serial No. 0935)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please set out the actual, revised and estimated number of applications for renewal and new issue of liquor licence processed in each of the years from 2018 to 2020.
2. Please set out the actual, revised and estimated expenditure of the Liquor Licensing Board in each of the years from 2018 to 2020.
3. Please set out the staff establishment of the Liquor Licensing Board in each of the years from 2018 to 2020.

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

1. The actual number of applications for renewal and new issue of liquor licences processed in 2018 is 6 170. The estimated number of the same is 6 200 for both 2019 and 2020.
2. The actual/revised/estimated expenditure involved in manning the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) Secretariat in 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 is \$6.4 million, \$6.5 million and \$6.7 million respectively.
3. In 2018-19, a total of 40 staff in the 3 licensing offices in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are responsible for handling liquor and club liquor licence applications as part of their licensing-related duties. In addition, 9 staff are deployed for providing secretariat support to the LLB. The staff establishment was the same for 2017-18 and will remain so for 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)159

(Question Serial No. 2594)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the public toilets managed by the Department in 18 districts, please provide in tabular form by district:

- (1) the names and addresses of public toilets;
- (2) the year of construction;
- (3) the year of last refurbishment;
- (4) the construction cost;
- (5) the usage rate;
- (6) the cleansing frequency (daily and weekly);
- (7) the number of cleansing staff; and
- (8) the quantity of tissue paper and liquid soap refilled per week.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

- (1) Currently, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) manages 799 public toilets. Their names and addresses are uploaded onto the website of the Department –
 - (a) Hong Kong Island:
https://www.fehd.hksarg/english/pleasant_environment/cleansing/list_of_public_toilets.html?district=HK

(b) Kowloon:
https://www.fehd.hksarg/english/pleasant_environment/cleansing/list_of_public_toilets.html?district=KLN

(c) New Territories and on outlying islands
https://www.fehd.hksarg/english/pleasant_environment/cleansing/list_of_public_toilets.html?district=NTIs

(2)-(4) The information of the newly built/refurbished/reprovisioned public toilets and their construction costs over the past 3 years is provided at Annex I.

(5) Among the 799 public toilets, 207 have high utilisation rates (with a daily average of over 300 visitors). A list of these toilets is provided at Annex II.

(6)-(8) In general, toilet attendant services are provided for public toilets with high utilisation rates or located at tourist spots. At present, 264 public toilets are provided with toilet attendant services with a total of some 900 toilet attendants employed by the Department's service contractors. The remaining public toilets are cleansed by about 40 mobile cleansing teams involving a total of about 110 cleansing workers. All public toilets are cleansed at least twice a day, and tissue papers and soaps are replenished as soon as possible once depleted.

- End -

Newly Built / Refurbished / Re-provisioned Public Toilets (PTs) in the Past 3 Years

	District	Name of PT	Project Cost (\$ million)	Nature of Works
2016-17 (11 PTs)				
1	Tuen Mun	Lung Kwu Tan Public Toilet	8.200	Newly Built PT
2	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange (Tuen Mun Bound) Public Toilet	7.800	Newly Built PT
3	Eastern	North Point Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	8.700	Re-provisioned PT
4	Wan Chai	Amoy Street Public Toilet	6.000	Re-provisioned PT
5	North	Fanling Station Road Public Toilet	1.484	Refurbished PT
6	Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Second Beach Carpark Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
7	Sha Tin	Fu Kin Street Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
8	Sha Tin	Shing Ho Road Public Toilet	8.000	Refurbished PT
9	Sha Tin	Wong Nai Tau Village Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
10	Tuen Mun	Fu Tei Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	1.700	Refurbished PT
11	Wan Chai	Canal Road Public Toilet	4.500	Refurbished PT
2017-18 (14 PTs)				
12	Tai Po	Tat Wan Road Public Toilet	6.745	Newly Built PT
13	Tuen Mun	Siu Hong Public Toilet	7.220	Newly Built PT
14	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-bus Interchange (Kowloon Bound) Public Toilet	7.500	Newly Built PT
15	Yuen Long	Tin Fuk Road Public Toilet	7.100	Newly Built PT
16	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Tsz Tin Road Public Toilet	1.500	Re-provisioned PT
17	Central and Western	Hatton Road Public Toilet	6.152	Refurbished PT
18	North	Tai Long Public Toilet	2.324	Refurbished PT
19	Sai Kung	Sha Kok Mei Public Toilet (I)	1.958	Refurbished PT

	District	Name of PT	Project Cost (\$ million)	Nature of Works
20	Sai Kung	Yi Chun Street Public Toilet	3.078	Refurbished PT
21	Sha Tin	Hin Tin Street Public Toilet	5.000	Refurbished PT
22	Sham Shui Po	Tonkin Street Public Toilet	3.728	Refurbished PT
23	Southern	Shek O Village Public Toilet	4.000	Refurbished PT
24	Wan Chai	Bowen Road Public Toilet	2.616	Refurbished PT
25	Wan Chai	Hing Fat Street Public Toilet	7.287	Refurbished PT
2018-19* (25 PTs)				
26	Islands	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	8.000	Newly Built PT
27	Islands	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.600	Newly Built PT
28	Islands	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.500	Newly Built PT
29	Islands	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet #	6.400	Newly Built PT
30	Islands	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet #	13.300	Newly Built PT
31	North	Ho Sheung Heung Public Toilet (III)	6.437	Newly Built PT
32	Sai Kung	Duckling Hill Public Toilet	5.950	Newly Built PT
33	Central and Western	Centre Street Public Toilet	Project cost of the PT is subsumed under the construction cost of Centre Street Market West Block at \$28.646 million under West Island Line Project of the Highways Department. Cost breakdown for the PT is not available.	Reprovisioned PT
34	North	Siu Hang San Tsuen Public Toilet	4.670	Reprovisioned PT
35	North	Wa Shan Tsuen Public Toilet	4.160	Reprovisioned PT
36	Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	4.142	Reprovisioned PT
37	Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	20.000	Reprovisioned PT

	District	Name of PT	Project Cost (\$ million)	Nature of Works
38	Central and Western	Belcher's Street Public Toilet	5.300	Refurbished PT
39	Central and Western	Exchange Square Public Toilet	3.900	Refurbished PT
40	Eastern	Tung Hei Road Public Toilet	9.200	Refurbished PT
41	North	Kam Tsin (North) Public Toilet	3.890	Refurbished PT
42	North	Wu Kau Tan Public Toilet	3.480	Refurbished PT
43	Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Government Offices Public Toilet	2.900	Refurbished PT
44	Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street Public Toilet	10.899	Refurbished PT
45	Southern	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital Public Toilet	1.914	Refurbished PT
46	Tai Po	Tai Po Plaza Public Toilet	3.311	Refurbished PT
47	Tuen Mun	Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	3.870	Refurbished PT
48	Wan Chai	Moreton Terrace Public Toilet	3.998	Refurbished PT
49	Yau Tsim	Battery Street Public Toilet	6.160	Refurbished PT
50	Yuen Long	Wing Ping Tsuen Public Toilet	5.080	Refurbished PT

* As at 8 March 2019

Located at Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port

Public Toilets (PTs) with High Utilisation Rates

District	Number of PTs with high utilisation rates
Central and Western	30
Wan Chai	18
Eastern	9
Southern	7
Islands	22
Yau Tsim Mong	13
Sham Shui Po	7
Kowloon City	15
Wong Tai Sin	3
Kwun Tong	4
Kwai Tsing	7
Tsuen Wan	4
Tuen Mun	7
Yuen Long	20
North	14
Tai Po	15
Sha Tin	7
Sai Kung	5

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)160

(Question Serial No. 2595)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the cleansing workers and toilet attendants employed by outsourced service contractors of the Department in the past five years, please provide:

- (1) a breakdown of the number of workers by workplace (such as public toilets, streets);
- (2) the number of cleansing workers working in the 18 districts in Hong Kong;
- (3) the median wage and average wage rate; and
- (4) the number and percentage of workers entitled to payment for meal breaks and those of workers not entitled to payment for meal breaks under the contracts.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

(1) and (2)

The information sought is provided in Annex 1.

(3) The information sought is provided in Annex 2.

(4) We do not keep information on the number of outsourced workers with or without paid meal breaks.

- End -

Number of outsourced cleansing workmen and toilet attendants

Districts	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 31.12.18)
Number of Cleansing Workmen (mainly performing street cleansing duties)					
Central and Western	492	534	533	665	667
Eastern	486	197	195	321	321
Islands	224	217	219	239	234
Kowloon City	377	385	385	434	437
Kwai Tsing	344	344	363	363	336
Kwun Tong	377	382	387	441	441
Mong Kok	505	509	452	444	436
North	459	489	496	520	524
Sai Kung	387	386	395	409	402
Sha Tin	399	368	368	418	421
Sham Shui Po	480	478	477	490	498
Southern	213	208	208	246	246
Tai Po	327	321	346	346	333
Tsuen Wan	403	406	406	432	432
Tuen Mun	363	307	307	308	310
Wan Chai	415	332	341	509	508
Wong Tai Sin	257	248	246	270	286
Yau Tsim	368	366	274	274	290
Yuen Long	478	478	519	519	587
Cross-District	338	1 064	1 056	911	1 158
Total	7 692	8 019	7 973	8 559	8 867
Number of Toilet Attendants					
Central and Western	128	81	81	99	99
Eastern	56	26	26	26	26
Islands	47	49	49	65	65
Kowloon City	64	64	64	64	64
Kwai Tsing	37	37	38	38	42
Kwun Tong	40	42	42	40	40
Mong Kok	36	36	36	36	44
North	58	46	46	54	54
Sai Kung	31	27	27	25	32
Sha Tin	49	40	40	50	50
Sham Shui Po	40	40	40	42	42
Southern	40	32	32	40	40
Tai Po	29	29	29	29	34
Tsuen Wan	32	36	36	34	34
Tuen Mun	16	16	16	18	18
Wan Chai	60	30	30	68	68
Wong Tai Sin	24	22	22	24	24
Yau Tsim	44	44	40	40	46
Yuen Long	46	46	48	48	56
Cross-District	83	113	113	89	89
Total	960	856	855	929	967

Note: No breakdown on the number of workers by workplace is available.

Monthly wages of outsourced cleansing workmen and toilet attendants

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 31.12.18)
Cleansing Workmen					
Median Committed Monthly Wages (\$)	7,600	8,184	8,308	8,804	8,928
Average Committed Monthly Wages (\$)	7,666	8,172	8,312	8,815	9,089
Toilet Attendants					
Median Committed Monthly Wages (\$)	8,510	9,207	9,347	9,905	10,044
Average Committed Monthly Wages (\$)	8,615	9,210	9,313	9,902	10,129

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)161****(Question Serial No. 2596)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

In the past 10 years,

- (1) which is the public toilet at the lowest construction cost? What is its construction cost, area and number of compartments?
- (2) which is the public toilet at the highest construction cost? What is its construction cost, area and number of compartments?
- (3) what is the average construction cost of a public toilet?
- (4) what is the average construction cost of a toilet compartment?
- (5) what is the average construction cost per square metre of a public toilet?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)Reply:

(1) & (2) : The information sought is provided as follows –

District	Name of Public Toilet	Construction Cost (\$ million)	Year of Construction	Floor Area (m ²)	Number of Compartments		Number of Accessible Unisex Toilet
					Male Toilet	Female Toilet	
North	Chuk Yuen Village Public Toilet	0.92	2014-15	42	1	2	1
Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	20.00	2018-19	383	6	12	2

(3), (4) & (5) : Public toilets vary in terms of accommodation requirements, layout design and specific site conditions, such as land size, accessibility, underground conditions, geotechnical features, etc. Since these factors can affect significantly the construction cost of individual toilets, it would not be possible to provide the unit cost per toilet, per compartment or per square metre.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)162

(Question Serial No. 0648)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Before the enactment of the Private Columbaria Ordinance, the Development Bureau used to provide the public with land/lease and town planning information on the private columbaria which had been made known to the Lands Department and/or the Planning Department. The information contained two parts, Part A and Part B, which were presented in two tables.

- Please provide as per the table below the number of various types of applications received after the commencement of the Private Columbaria Ordinance, and the number of applications with which all the required supporting documents or information had been submitted.

Districts	Types of applications	Number of applications submitted by columbaria included in Part A (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)	Number of applications submitted by columbaria included in Part B (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)	Number of applications submitted by columbaria not included in the information provided by the Development Bureau (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)
District 1	Application for a licence	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
	Application for an exemption	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
	Application for a temporary suspension of	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)

	liability			
District 2	Application for a licence	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
	Application for an exemption	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
	Application for a temporary suspension of liability	-- (--)	-- (--)	-- (--)
...
	Total number			

- What is the expected time of the issue of the first batch of licences? How many licences will be granted? What is the expenditure incurred in processing the applications for these licences?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

The Private Columbaria Licensing Board (the Licensing Board) approved 2 licence applications in January and March 2019. The Licensing Board also agreed in principle in February 2019 that another application basically met the requirements for a licence (except for the land-related ones), and will make its final decision after the applicant has complied with the land-related requirements.

As at 18 March 2019, the Licensing Board was processing 333 applications for specified instruments submitted by 136 private columbaria. We do not keep the information requested by district. A summary of the 333 applications is as follows -

Types of applications	Number of applications submitted by columbaria included in Part A (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)	Number of applications submitted by columbaria included in Part B (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)	Number of applications submitted by columbaria not included in the information provided by the Development Bureau (Number of applications which have provided all the required supporting documents or information)
Application for a licence	12 (0)	94 (0)	15 (0)
Application for an exemption	3 (0)	50 (0)	7 (0)
Application for a temporary suspension of liability	14 (0)	121 (0)	17 (0)
Total number of applications	29 (0)	265 (0)	39 (0)

Number of private columbaria	13 (0)	105 (0)	18 (0)
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The estimated expenditure of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in 2019-20 is \$76.2 million. The Department does not keep a separate breakdown of the expenditure involved in processing applications for specified instruments.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)163

(Question Serial No. 1646)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to “continue the comprehensive review on public markets, with a view to formulating concrete improvement proposals for the management of public markets”, please provide information on the number of stalls, occupancy rate and vacancy rate of individual public markets (listed by air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned markets) in the territory over the past 3 years (i.e. 2016, 2017 and 2018).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

- End -

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(b)			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^(c)		
			2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
1	Aldrich Bay Market	Yes	71	71	71	86%	94%	92%	14%	6%	8%
2	Apleichau Market	Yes	63	63	63	100%	97%	97%	0%	3%	3%
3	Centre Street Market	Yes	46	46	46	78%	78%	76%	22%	22%	24%
4	Chai Wan Market	Yes	173	174	174	95%	95%	92%	5%	5%	8%
5	Lei Yue Mun Market	Yes	20	20	20	100%	100%	95%	0%	0%	5%
6	Luen Wo Hui Market	Yes	338	338	338	99%	100%	99%	1%	0%	1%
7	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	Yes	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
8	Peng Chau Market	Yes	18	18	18	100%	94%	100%	0%	6%	0%
9	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	Yes	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
10	Sai Ying Pun Market	Yes	102	102	102	89%	89%	87%	11%	11%	13%
11	San Hui Market	Yes	324	324	324	99%	98%	98%	1%	2%	2%
12	Sha Tin Market	Yes	172	172	172	98%	98%	99%	2%	2%	1%
13	Shek Wu Hui Market	Yes	392	393	393	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
14	Tai Kiu Market	Yes	379	379	379	99%	97%	97%	1%	3%	3%
15	Tai Kok Tsui Market	Yes	135	135	135	100%	100%	97%	0%	0%	3%
16	Tai Po Hui Market	Yes	313	313	313	99%	100%	100%	1%	0%	0%
17	Tsing Yi Market	Yes	76	76	76	100%	99%	99%	0%	1%	1%
18	Wanchai Market	Yes	50	50	50	96%	98%	100%	4%	2%	0%
19	Yan Oi Market	Yes	108	108	108	97%	98%	94%	3%	2%	6%
20	Yee On Street Market	Yes	65	65	65	98%	98%	92%	2%	2%	8%
21	Yue Wan Market	Yes	374	380	380	94%	95%	94%	6%	5%	6%
22	Bowrington Road Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	296	296	296	99%	95%	93%	1%	5%	7%
23	Hung Hom Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	224	224	224	100%	99%	98%	0%	1%	2%
24	Java Road Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	194	194	194	95%	95%	94%	5%	5%	6%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(b)			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^(c)		
			2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
25	Lockhart Road Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	166	166	166	80%	77%	74%	20%	23%	26%
26	Pei Ho Street Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	227	234	234	98%	99%	99%	2%	1%	1%
27	Sai Wan Ho Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	274	274	274	97%	97%	98%	3%	3%	2%
28	Sheung Wan Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	222	223	223	100%	99%	98%	0%	1%	2%
29	Smithfield Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	216	216	216	100%	100%	99%	0%	0%	1%
30	Tai Shing Street Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	442	442	442	95%	93%	93%	5%	7%	7%
31	Tokwawan Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	267	267	267	98%	99%	97%	2%	1%	3%
32	Wong Nai Chung Market	Only in CFC ^(e)	69	69	69	99%	97%	96%	1%	3%	4%
33	Aberdeen Market	No	335	335	335	99%	97%	96%	1%	3%	4%
34	Causeway Bay Market	No	51	51	51	98%	98%	96%	2%	2%	4%
35	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	No	32	32	32	94%	94%	87.5%	6%	6%	12.5%
36	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
37	Cheung Chau Market	No	240	240	240	98%	98%	98%	2%	2%	2%
38	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market ^(d)	No	28	28	28	43%	39%	39%	57%	61%	61%
39	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	No	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
40	Choi Hung Road Market	No	116	116	116	69%	67%	66%	31%	33%	34%
41	Electric Road Market	No	99	99	99	97%	97%	81%	3%	3%	19%
42	Fa Yuen Street Market	No	180	180	180	100%	98%	92%	0%	2%	8%
43	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	No	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
44	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	No	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(b)			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^(c)		
			2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
45	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	No	88	86	86	66%	70%	69%	34%	30%	31%
46	Heung Che Street Market	No	223	225	225	96%	98%	95%	4%	2%	5%
47	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	No	11	11	11	91%	100%	91%	9%	0%	9%
48	Hung Shui Kiu Market	No	174	172	172	75%	66%	72%	25%	34%	28%
49	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	No	16	15	15	62%	60%	60%	38%	40%	40%
50	Kam Tin Market	No	41	41	41	98%	100%	100%	2%	0%	0%
51	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	No	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
52	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
53	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	No	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
54	Kowloon City Market	No	581	581	581	100%	99%	95%	0%	1%	5%
55	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	No	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
56	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	No	12	11	11	83%	91%	91%	17%	9%	9%
57	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	No	98	98	98	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
58	Kwun Chung Market	No	218	218	218	98%	92%	85%	2%	8%	15%
59	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	No	29	29	29	100%	97%	97%	0%	3%	3%
60	Lai Wan Market	No	42	42	42	98%	98%	98%	2%	2%	2%
61	Lam Tei Market	No	7	7	7	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
62	Lau Fau Shan Market	No	25	25	25	88%	88%	88%	12%	12%	12%
63	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	No	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(b)			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^(c)		
			2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
64	Mui Wo Market	No	35	35	35	97%	100%	91%	3%	0%	9%
65	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	No	28	28	28	86%	82%	82%	14%	18%	18%
66	Ngau Chi Wan Market	No	402	402	402	93%	90%	87%	7%	10%	13%
67	Ngau Tau Kok Market	No	466	466	466	87%	87%	86%	13%	13%	14%
68	North Kwai Chung Market	No	222	222	222	100%	97%	91%	0%	3%	9%
69	North Point Market	No	42	42	42	100%	93%	83%	0%	7%	17%
70	On Ching Road Flower Market	No	13	13	13	92%	100%	100%	8%	0%	0%
71	Plover Cove Road Market	No	244	244	244	96%	92%	82%	4%	8%	18%
72	Po On Road Market	No	449	449	449	93%	89%	89%	7%	11%	11%
73	Quarry Bay Market	No	113	113	113	82%	75%	69%	18%	25%	31%
74	Sai Kung Market	No	209	209	209	99%	95%	91%	1%	5%	9%
75	Sha Tau Kok Market	No	66	66	66	98%	98%	100%	2%	2%	0%
76	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	No	29	29	29	90%	90%	90%	10%	10%	10%
77	Shek Tong Tsui Market	No	151	151	151	98%	95%	91%	2%	5%	9%
78	Sheung Fung Street Market	No	71	71	71	100%	99%	99%	0%	1%	1%
79	Shui Wo Street Market	No	302	302	302	100%	99%	98%	0%	1%	2%
80	Stanley Waterfront Mart	No	20	20	20	95%	95%	85%	5%	5%	15%
81	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	No	17	17	17	100%	88%	82%	0%	12%	18%
82	Tai O Market	No	26	26	26	100%	85%	88%	0%	15%	12%
83	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
84	Tai Wai Market	No	195	195	195	88%	86%	85%	12%	14%	15%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	Provision of Air-conditioning (A/C) system	No. of stalls			Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(b)			Vacancy rate as at 31 December ^(c)		
			2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
85	Tang Lung Chau Market	No	34	34	34	94%	94%	94%	6%	6%	6%
86	Tin Wan Market	No	180	180	180	100%	97%	96%	0%	3%	4%
87	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
88	Tsuen Wan Market	No	381	381	381	93%	90%	89%	7%	10%	11%
89	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	No	56	56	56	100%	93%	93%	0%	7%	7%
90	Tui Min Hoi Market	No	34	34	34	85%	59%	56%	15%	41%	44%
91	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	No	359	359	359	41%	34%	32%	59%	66%	68%
92	Tung Yick Market	No	446	446	446	41%	41%	41%	59%	59%	59%
93	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	No	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
94	Wing Fong Street Market	No	112	112	114	92%	98%	85%	8%	2%	15%
95	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	No	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%
96	Yau Ma Tei Market	No	144	144	144	96%	94%	90%	4%	6%	10%
97	Yeung Uk Road Market	No	318	318	318	97%	98%	96%	3%	2%	4%
98	Yue Kwong Road Market	No	197	197	197	98%	97%	87%	2%	3%	13%

Remarks:

- (a) The figure in respect of a cooked food market closed in February 2019 is excluded.
- (b) Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- (c) Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market .

- (d) Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market is planned to be closed in June 2019.
- (e) CFC stands for Cooked Food Centre in a public market.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)164

(Question Serial No. 1647)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the work of taking “action to close public markets which are under-utilised”, please provide information on:

- the “occupancy rate” and “vacancy rate” of each public market in the territory;
- how the land will be used after closure of the markets and the estimated expenditure involved; and
- the number of markets that were closed in the past 5 years (i.e. from 2014 to 2018), the expenditure involved, and the reason(s) for the closure.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 54)

Reply:

The occupancy rate and vacancy rate of each public market is provided at Annex.

As promulgated in the 2018 Policy Address, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

As a result of demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having very low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closure of such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful use to better serve the community. When considering whether an under-utilised market is to be closed, FEHD will take into account a host of factors, including vacancy rate, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative sources of fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the likely cost-effectiveness of upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils,

etc. FEHD will consult the relevant District Council(s) and the market tenants to be affected on any market closure plans.

Where a market is closed and the premises are no longer required by FEHD, the vacated building space will be handled according to established procedures. Depending on the circumstances, the Government Property Agency, Planning Department or Lands Department may be requested to seek inputs from other government departments on proposals to put the premises to gainful long-term use.

In the past 5 years ending 31 March 2019, 3 markets, namely Shau Kei Wan Market, Tsuen King Circuit Market and Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market were closed due to consistently high vacancy rate. Their closure resulted in reduction of annual operating cost of about \$11.4 million.

- End -

Occupancy rates and vacancy rates of public markets

Annex

Serial No.	Name of Market ^a	As at 31 December 2018		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate ^b	Vacancy rate ^c
1	Aberdeen Market	335	96%	4%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	71	92%	8%
3	Apleichau Market	63	97%	3%
4	Bowrington Road Market	296	93%	7%
5	Causeway Bay Market	51	96%	4%
6	Centre Street Market	46	76%	24%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	88%	13%
8	Chai Wan Market	174	92%	8%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
10	Cheung Chau Market	240	98%	2%
11	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	28	39%	61%
12	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	100%	0%
13	Choi Hung Road Market	116	66%	34%
14	Electric Road Market	99	81%	19%
15	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	92%	8%
16	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	100%	0%
17	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	100%	0%
18	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	69%	31%
19	Heung Che Street Market	225	95%	5%
20	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
21	Hung Hom Market	224	98%	2%
22	Hung Shui Kiu Market	172	72%	28%
23	Java Road Market	194	94%	6%
24	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	60%	40%
25	Kam Tin Market	41	100%	0%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^a	As at 31 December 2018		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate ^b	Vacancy rate ^c
26	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
27	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
28	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
29	Kowloon City Market	581	95%	5%
30	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
31	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
32	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	100%	0%
33	Kwun Chung Market	218	85%	15%
34	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	97%	3%
35	Lai Wan Market	42	98%	2%
36	Lam Tei Market	7	100%	0%
37	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	88%	12%
38	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	95%	5%
39	Lockhart Road Market	166	74%	26%
40	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	99%	1%
41	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
42	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	100%	0%
43	Mui Wo Market	35	91%	9%
44	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	82%	18%
45	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	87%	13%
46	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	86%	14%
47	North Kwai Chung Market	222	91%	9%
48	North Point Market	42	83%	17%
49	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	100%	0%
50	Pei Ho Street Market	234	99%	1%
51	Peng Chau Market	18	100%	0%
52	Plover Cove Road	244	82%	18%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^a	As at 31 December 2018		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate ^b	Vacancy rate ^c
	Market			
53	Po On Road Market	449	89%	11%
54	Quarry Bay Market	113	69%	31%
55	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
56	Sai Kung Market	209	91%	9%
57	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	98%	2%
58	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	87%	13%
59	San Hui Market	324	98%	2%
60	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	100%	0%
61	Sha Tin Market	172	99%	1%
62	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	90%	10%
63	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	91%	9%
64	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	100%	0%
65	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	99%	1%
66	Sheung Wan Market	223	98%	2%
67	Shui Wo Street Market	302	98%	2%
68	Smithfield Market	216	99%	1%
69	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	85%	15%
70	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	82%	18%
71	Tai Kiu Market	379	97%	3%
72	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	97%	3%
73	Tai O Market	26	88%	12%
74	Tai Po Hui Market	313	100%	0%
75	Tai Shing Street Market	442	93%	7%
76	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
77	Tai Wai Market	195	85%	15%
78	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	94%	6%
79	Tin Wan Market	180	96%	4%
80	Tokwawan Market	267	97%	3%
81	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
82	Tsing Yi Market	76	99%	1%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^a	As at 31 December 2018		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate ^b	Vacancy rate ^c
83	Tsuen Wan Market	381	89%	11%
84	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	93%	7%
85	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	56%	44%
86	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	32%	68%
87	Tung Yick Market	446	41%	59%
88	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	100%	0%
89	Wanchai Market	50	100%	0%
90	Wing Fong Street Market	114	85%	15%
91	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
92	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	96%	4%
93	Yan Oi Market	108	94%	6%
94	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	90%	10%
95	Yee On Street Market	65	92%	8%
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	96%	4%
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	87%	13%
98	Yue Wan Market	380	94%	6%

^a The information in respect of a cooked food market is not included as it was closed in February 2019.

^b Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

^c Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)165****(Question Serial No. 1648)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

As regards the improvement of facilities of existing public markets, the Department indicated in the replies to the estimates of expenditure 2018-19 that the replacement of escalators and lifts would be carried out in some public markets.

- Please set out the progress and details of the works concerned as per the table below;

District	Name of market	Number of lifts to be replaced	Number of escalators to be replaced	Commencement date	Completion date	Estimated expenditure
Southern	Tin Wan Market	1	2			
	Yue Kwong Road Market	2	1			
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Market	2	4			
	Java Road Market	1	6			
	Electric Road Market	-	2			
Wanchai	Lockhart Road Market	1	4			
	Causeway Bay Market	-	2			
	Wong Nai Chung Market	-	4			
Central and Western	Sheung Wan	3	6			

District	Name of market	Number of lifts to be replaced	Number of escalators to be replaced	Commencement date	Completion date	Estimated expenditure
	Market					
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	3	-			
	Smithfield Market	1	4			
Mongkok	Fa Yuen Street Market	1	10			
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	2	12			
	Pei Ho Street Market	2	4			
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	-	6			
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	2	2			
	To Kwa Wan Market	1	-			
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market	-	1			
	Shui Wo Street Market	2	-			
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market	2	-			
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	4	8			
	Tsuen Wan Market	-	1			
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	2	4			
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	-	2			
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	1	-			
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market	-	2			
Total		33	87			

- Apart from those listed in the above table, will there be any replacement of escalators and lifts in other public markets in the coming year? If yes, please set out the details.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 53)

Reply:

To ensure smooth operation of lifts and escalators in public markets, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department started a programme in 2015-16 to replace aged lifts and escalators in phases. To date, we have earmarked \$415 million for the replacement of 46 lifts and 120 escalators in 31 public markets. The replacement works are expected to be completed progressively in the coming years. The information sought is provided at Annex.

- End -

Replacement of aged lifts and escalators in public markets since 2015-16

District	Name of Market	Number of facilities to be replaced		Commencement Date ^{1&2}	Completion Date ²	Funding earmarked (\$ million)
		Lifts	Escalators			
Southern	Tin Wan Market	-	2	Mar 2017	Jul 2017	5.0
		2	-	Under preparation		5.0
	Yue Kwong Road Market	-	1	Feb 2017	Jun 2017	2.5
		2	-	Under preparation		5.0
Ap Lei Chau Market	2	2	Under preparation		10.0	
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Market	-	2	Apr 2019 (tentative)	Oct 2019 (tentative)	5.0
		2	2	Under preparation		10.0
	Java Road Market	-	4	Jul 2018	Dec 2018	10.0
		2	2	Under preparation		10.0
	Electric Road Market	-	4	May 2019 (tentative)	Nov 2019 (tentative)	10.0
		1	-	Under preparation		2.5
Chai Wan Market	-	2	Under preparation		5.0	
Wanchai	Lockhart Road Market	1	4	Under preparation		12.5
	Causeway Bay Market	-	2	Jul 2019 (tentative)	Nov 2019 (tentative)	5.0
	Wong Nai Chung Market	-	2	Mar 2019	Jun 2019 (tentative)	5.0
		-	4	Under preparation		10.0
Central and Western	Sheung Wan Market	-	4	Mar 2017	Nov 2017	10.0
		3	2	Under preparation		12.5
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	2	-	Apr 2019 (tentative)	Dec 2019 (tentative)	5.0
		1	6	Under preparation		17.5
	Smithfield Market	-	4	Aug 2018	Jan 2019	10.0
		1	6	Under preparation		17.5
	Sai Ying Pun Market	-	7	Under preparation		17.5
Centre Street Market	-	3	Under preparation		7.5	
Mongkok	Fa Yuen Street Market	-	6	Apr 2017 Mar 2019	May 2018 Aug 2019 (tentative)	15.0
		1	4	Under preparation		12.5
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	-	8	Dec 2017 May 2019 (tentative)	Mar 2018 Oct 2019 (tentative)	20.0
		2	4	Under preparation		15.0
	Pei Ho Street Market	-	4	Feb 2019	Jul 2019 (tentative)	10.0
		2	-	Under preparation		5.0
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	-	6	May 2017 May 2018	Oct 2017 Aug 2018	15.0

District	Name of Market	Number of facilities to be replaced		Commencement Date ^{1&2}	Completion Date ²	Funding earmarked (\$ million)
		Lifts	Escalators			
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	-	2	Jun 2016 Apr 2017	Aug 2016 Jul 2017	5.0
	To Kwa Wan Market	3	-	Under preparation		7.5
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market	2	-	Under preparation		5.0
	Shui Wo Street Market	-	1	Under preparation		2.5
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market	2	-	Sep 2019 (tentative)	Mar 2020 (tentative)	5.0
		-	2	Under preparation		5.0
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	2	8	Apr 2016 Jul 2017 Mar 2018 Sep 2018 Mar 2019	Sep 2016 Dec 2017 Aug 2018 Jan 2019 May 2019 (tentative)	25.0
		4	-	Under preparation		10.0
	Tsuen Wan Market	1	-	Under preparation		2.5
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	-	4	Jul 2017 Mar 2018	Dec 2017 Aug 2018	10.0
		2	-	Under preparation		5.0
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	-	2	May 2017	Dec 2017	5.0
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	2	2	Under preparation		10.0
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market	-	2	Aug 2016	Nov 2016	5.0
		1	-	Under preparation		2.5
Yuen Long	Tung Yick Market	1	-	Under preparation		2.5
Total		46	120			415.0

¹ Replacement projects in a public market may be conducted in phases taking into account the actual situation of the market concerned and the views of the stakeholders.

² The commencement/ completion dates only indicate the actual/ tentative period of site works. The replacement works above are at different stages of preparation. Before the commencement of the actual site works, preparation including tendering, liaison with stakeholders on the works arrangement and manufacturing and delivery of materials etc., would be required.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)166

(Question Serial No. 1435)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 169 of the Budget Speech that a total expenditure of over \$600 million may be incurred in the coming 5 years for refurbishing by phases about 240 public toilets under the management of the Department, with a view to improving ventilation and other facilities, as well as enhancing their cleanliness and hygiene. In the connection, please advise on:

- 1) the number and names of the public toilets in 18 districts to be refurbished in tabular form, as well as the priority order and schedule of the refurbishment works; and
- 2) whether the Department will consider allocating more resources to increase the cleansing manpower and frequency, which are considered more important than hardware like decoration and works as far as cleanliness is concerned, of all public toilets, so as to improve their hygiene; if yes, the estimated expenditure to be involved.

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

- 1) About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will be gathering momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.
- 2) To improve the cleansing condition of public toilets and to relieve the workload of toilet attendants, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has allocated additional resources to procure the services of dedicated deep cleansing

teams starting from March 2019 for toilets with a high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots. The Department plans to extend such services to all public toilets when respective street cleansing services contracts are renewed at an annual estimated expenditure of about \$60 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)167

(Question Serial No. 0792)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government is committed to promoting green burial as a more environmentally-friendly and sustainable means of handling human ashes. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department disseminates food safety, keep clean and green burial messages through television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, social media such as Facebook and YouTube, mobile applications, banners, posters, publicity stickers, pamphlets, leaflets and a publicity vehicle, as appropriate. In addition, talks and support are given at food safety and environmental hygiene activities organised by District Councils, non-governmental organisations, community groups and schools.

1. Please provide details of the work arrangement, objective(s) and timetable of each of the above publicity programmes.
2. Please set out the operational expenses, manpower involved and a breakdown of the expenditure for each of the above publicity programmes.
3. Please provide the target number of people to be reached in each of the above publicity programmes.

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been making use of different platforms, throughout the year, to strengthen publicity and public education on environmental hygiene (mainly keeping clean and pest control), green burial and food safety to enhance the public's awareness of these issues and promote public participation. Messages are disseminated to the community through broadcast of Announcements in the Public Interest (API) on television and radio, display of posters at main public transport facilities such as MTR stations, bus stops, bus and tram bodies, etc. The Department also makes use of mobile applications and social media to reach out to the public online. The 3 social media applications maintained by the Department include Facebook page and

Instagram of “Hong Kong’s Action on Salt and Sugar Reduction”, Facebook page of “Centre for Food Safety” as well as Facebook page and Instagram of “Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak”. In addition, the Department organises talks, seminars and activities for the public as well as outreaching programmes and school talks as a major part of public education. The Department also launched the Green Burial Central Register in January 2019 to encourage the public to register their wish for green burial.

In 2019-20, the estimated expenditure on the publicity campaigns is as follows:

Theme	Estimated expenditure (\$ million)
Environmental Hygiene (keeping clean and pest control)	24.9
Green Burial	11.0
Food Safety	9.4

The Department plans to organise 1 710 seminars and activities for the public, 1 200 school talks as well as 20 outreaching programmes for schools, covering the topics on environmental hygiene, green burial and food safety in 2019-20.

In 2019-20, green burial promotion will be coordinated by a dedicated team, comprising 5 officers and supporting staff. The estimated provision earmarked for promoting green burial is \$17 million, including \$11 million for publicity campaigns. Promotion of environmental hygiene and food safety is carried out by existing staff as part of their day-to-day duties. There is no separate breakdown on the resources so deployed.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)168

(Question Serial No. 0797)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the proposal in the Budget that a total expenditure of \$600 million be allocated for rolling out the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases, involving about 240 public toilets -

1. Please set out the details of improvement to the 240 public toilets in each phase, including the estimated commencement and completion dates of the works, the manpower involved and the estimated expenditure.
2. Please provide the names and locations of the 240 public toilets and the expected number of users in the coming 5 years, with a breakdown by district.
3. What are the priority order and selection criteria for the 240 public toilets to be refurbished under the programme?
4. How will the \$600 million be allocated to the 240 public toilets? What measures will be taken to monitor the use of the \$600 million and ensure that it will be well spent without being abused?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 46)

Reply:

1. About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. 26 additional staff will be deployed to implement the refurbishment programme, incurring an estimated annual expenditure of about \$19.8 million.
- 2-3. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location

and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.

4. The estimated cost of refurbishment or facelifiting works for a specific public toilet will be determined with regard to the scope of works as well as the design and materials to be used. The improvement works will be vetted by a working group formed by the Architectural Services Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)169

(Question Serial No. 2154)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As mentioned in paragraph 161 of the Budget Speech, it is estimated that a total expenditure of over \$600 million may be incurred for refurbishing the public toilets of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the coming 5 years, with a view to improving ventilation and other facilities, as well as enhancing their cleanliness and hygiene, involving about 240 public toilets. In this connection, please advise on:

- (a) the total number of public toilets currently managed by the Government in the territory, with a breakdown by district in tabular form;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted surveys on the usage rate of public toilets in the urban area and made follow-up actions accordingly, e.g. considering increasing the frequency of cleansing and maintenance, constructing additional facilities of the same kind in districts, etc.; and
- (c) whether the Department will consider allocating resources to improve the treatment of cleansing workers of public toilets, e.g. improving their environment for rest, etc.? If yes, what are the details; if no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows —

- (a) Currently, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) manages 799 public toilets, comprising 90 on Hong Kong Island, 62 in Kowloon and 647 in the New Territories and on outlying islands. The breakdown by district is set out at Annex.

- (b) The Department has recently completed a survey on public toilets with relatively high utilisation rates or located at tourist spots, and stepped up monitoring of contractors' performances in cleansing those toilets since September 2018. The Department will gradually extend the survey to other public toilets.

To improve the cleansing conditions of public toilets and to relieve the workload of toilet attendants, the Department has allocated additional resources to procure the services of dedicated deep cleansing teams starting from March 2019 for toilets with a high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots. The Department plans to extend such services to all public toilets when respective street cleansing services contracts are renewed.

The Department will keep under review whether to provide new toilet facilities with regard to the availability of such facilities in the vicinity, technical feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and views of District Councils, etc.

- (c) At present, 264 public toilets managed by the Department are provided with attendant services and 231 of them are provided with attendant rooms. If circumstances permit, the Department will make available attendant rooms when the toilets are refurbished.

- End -

Number of Public Toilets in 18 districts

District	Number of Public Toilets
Central and Western	36
Wan Chai	18
Eastern	13
Southern	23
Yau Tsim Mong	21
Sham Shui Po	10
Kowloon City	15
Wong Tai Sin	6
Kwun Tong	10
Kwai Tsing	19
Tsuen Wan	32
Tuen Mun	47
Yuen Long	183
North	136
Tai Po	72
Sha Tin	30
Sai Kung	60
Islands	68

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)170

(Question Serial No. 0191)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks and the number of rodent trappings in 2018 both increased substantially as compared with 2017. Please advise on the details and effectiveness of the relevant work. Regarding rodent control, what are the Department's specific work plan and timetable in 2019? Please advise on the details of the work, the manpower involved and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

In 2017 and 2018, the number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks was 70 121 and 93 815 respectively, and the number of trappings was 54 438 and 60 432 respectively. The increase in the number of poison treatments and trappings for rodent in 2018 was attributable to the strengthening of prevention and control measures taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in response to increasing public concerns about rodent infestation. In addition, street cleansing has been stepped up to improve the general hygiene condition to deplete food and harbourages for rodents. The total number of dead rodents collected and live rodents caught increased from 41 038 in 2017 to 44 378 in 2018.

In 2019, on top of routine anti-rodent work, the Department will organise territory-wide interdepartmental anti-rodent campaigns to strengthen rodent prevention and control and step up public education. The first phase of anti-rodent campaign was launched in January 2019 and the second phase will commence in July 2019. To intensify district rodent prevention and control work, the Department will also launch 2 two months long anti-rodent operations in designated target areas in May and November 2019. The operations adopt multi-pronged strategies to combat the rodent problem, including elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents, as well as blocking their passages. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity as well as provide support and technical advice to other departments on rodent prevention and control.

The Department adopts an integrated approach on rodent prevention and control. Such an approach is premised on the recommendations and technical guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO) and is in line with that adopted by the Mainland and other countries, like Malaysia, Singapore as well as those in Europe and North America. The Department will continue to carry out rodent surveillance programmes, keep in view the rodent prevention and control measures recommended by WHO and adopted by other countries, and to explore the feasibility of applying technologies to improve the rodent surveillance and control work.

The estimated expenditure in 2019-20 on rodent prevention and control is \$213.5 million and 700 departmental staff and 1 800 contractors' staff will be deployed to provide pest control and prevention services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)171

(Question Serial No. 0192)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this programme, the Department will follow up on the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control. Please advise on the details, the specific work plan and timetable, and the estimated manpower and resources required.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a task group, led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission and the Legislative Council Public Accounts Committee concerning the work of CFS in food safety management and import control. The task group has commenced comprehensive reviews on CFS' operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has started to roll out concrete and effective short, medium and long term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, and strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. In 2019-20, 35 additional civil service posts will be created in CFS along with an additional provision of \$25 million to implement the reviews and the enhancement measures.

In addition, CFS already put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)172

(Question Serial No. 1850)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to market management and hawker control, please provide information on the following:

1. Given that the site for building a public market in Tin Shui Wai was announced in the Policy Address, please advise on the planning of the market, the consultation results, the timetable for funding application or construction and the estimated expenditure.
2. It is stated that the Department will continue to enforce against shop front extensions. Please set out the blackspots of shopfront extension or obstruction caused by hawkers in Yuen Long district, the number of complaints received, warnings issued and prosecutions instituted, as well as the median fines in the past year.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Che-cheung (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

1. As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build a new public market at the section of Tin Fuk Road outside Tin Shui Wai Mass Transit Railway Station. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) consulted the Yuen Long District Council in October 2018 on the proposal. Members generally supported the provision of a decked-over market. In building such a new-generation public market, the Department needs to introduce new design features to facilitate modern management and meet the expectations of patrons in today's retail environment.

The timetable and expenditure of the project can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

2. The existing list of shop front extension and hawker black spots in Yuen Long district, number of complaints received, number of prosecutions instituted and the median fines in 2018 are provided at Annex. The Department does not keep statistics on the number of warnings issued.

- End -

List of black spots of shop front extension and hawkers in Yuen Long District

Locations	Number of complaints received	Number of prosecutions instituted	Median Fines (\$)
Shop Front Extension Black Spots¹			
Yu King Square and Hong King Street	17	144	650
Hung Min Court and Mau Tan Street	18	181	1,500
Fau Tsoi Street	27	83	1,500
Sau Fu Street	16	6	1,500
Fook Tak Street	1	115	1,500
Fook Hong Street, Kiu Tak Path, Kiu Sau Path and intersection of Sau Fu Street and Tung Lok Street	20	220	1,500
Yau San Street, intersection of Fung Kam Street and Fung Kwan Street	22	28	1,500
Street shops at Hung Yip Building and Hing Fook Building II, 253-259 Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long	0	0	Not applicable
Kin Tak Street	3	0	Not applicable
Wang Fat Path	2	292	1,500
Tai Fung Street	0	0	Not applicable
No. 8-64 Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long	2	4	1,150
Hawker Black Spots²			
Hop Choi Street	82	251	1,500

Remarks:

1. The list of shop front extension black spots is available at Home Affairs Department's website (www.had.gov.hk).
2. The list of hawker black spots is available at Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's website (www.fehd.gov.hk).

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)173****(Question Serial No. 1571)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to prevention and control of rodents in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of rodent infestation complaints received by the Department in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by District Council district;
2. the manpower and expenditure involved in prevention and control of rodents by the Department in each of the past 3 years and in the coming year; among the expenditure, the amount used for engaging service contractors;
3. the details and effectiveness of the anti-rodent operations in designated target areas in the past year; and
4. the details and effectiveness of the new measures on prevention and control of rodents adopted by the Department in recent years.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

1. The number of rodent infestation complaints received with breakdown by District Council district in the past 3 years is provided as follows -

District	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	881	871	992
Wan Chai	534	691	909
Eastern	650	765	884
Southern	145	189	171

District	2016	2017	2018
Yau Tsim Mong	1 235	1 247	1 199
Sham Shui Po	996	1 181	1 381
Kowloon City	810	865	1 128
Wong Tai Sin	277	343	338
Kwun Tong	490	477	487
Kwai Tsing	215	254	336
Tsuen Wan	354	347	376
Tuen Mun	361	354	411
Yuen Long	550	795	892
North	275	306	387
Tai Po	268	346	352
Sha Tin	382	530	696
Sai Kung	337	358	381
Islands	278	331	343
Overall	9 038	10 250	11 663

2. The expenditure of the pest control services as a whole (in-house and outsourced) for 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was \$544 million, \$569 million and \$637 million respectively. The expenditure of the pest control service contracts for 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was \$268 million, \$277 million and \$321 million respectively. Total workforce of in-house staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) for 2016, 2017 and 2018 was 702, 702 and 699 respectively. Total workforce of outsourced pest control services for 2016, 2017 and 2018 was about 1 680, 1 740 and 1 860 respectively. There is no separate breakdown on manpower and expenditure involved in prevention and control of rodents.

3. To intensify district rodent prevention and control work, the Department launched 2 two-month anti-rodent operations in designated target areas in all districts in April and October 2018, and adopted multi-pronged strategies to combat the rodent problem, including elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents as well as blocking their passages. The Department placed poisonous baits and traps at 5 350 and 8 459 locations respectively, and destroyed 343 rat holes, with 630 dead rodents collected and 476 live rodents caught in traps in the first operation. In the second operation, the Department placed poisonous baits and traps at 12 328 and 14 016 locations respectively, and destroyed 460 rat holes, with 1 006 dead rodents collected and 829 live rodents caught in traps.

The 2 anti-rodent operations at designated target areas conducted in 2018 were considered effective. A total of 1 636 dead rodents collected and 1 305 live rodents caught in traps while the total numbers of dead rodents collected and live rodents caught in traps were increased from 41 038 in 2017 to 44 378 in 2018. Disinfestation operations by the Department at public places alone cannot solve the problem. It is important that members of the public should work closely with the Department in rodent control by eliminating rodents in their own premises. To this

end, it is part of the Department's anti-rodent operations to provide health education on prevention and control of rodent infestation to the public and to offer technical support.

4. The Department will continue to keep in view the methods of vector prevention and control recommended by the World Health Organization and adopted by the Mainland and other countries, like Malaysia, Singapore as well as those in Europe and North America. We keep an open mind on adopting or trying out methods that are suitable for use in local circumstances for further improving the effectiveness of our rodent infestation survey, as well as prevention and control work. The Department is now carrying out trials on a non-poisonous bait for use in Rodent Infestation Survey (RIS) to improve its sensitivity. If it is found to be more effective, it will be deployed for use in all districts for the RIS. Besides, the Department is also carrying field trials on an automatic rodent trapping device using compressed carbon dioxide gas to drive a striker for killing rodents that touch the trigger when trying to access the lure set inside the device. The effectiveness of the device in controlling rodents is being monitored and assessed.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)174

(Question Serial No. 1673)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is responsible for the management of public toilets in the territory. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the types of public toilets (including aqua privies) in the territory, with a breakdown by region (Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and New Territories);
- (2) whether assessment has been made on the adequacy of public toilets in the territory. Is the male-to-female toilet compartment ratio reasonable? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s);
- (3) the number of public toilets that are provided with cleansing attendants, with a breakdown by region (Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and New Territories), as well as the reason(s) for not providing attendants in some public toilets;
- (4) the number of complaints about unsatisfactory hygiene conditions of public toilets received in each of the past three years, with a breakdown by tourist district and non-tourist district respectively; and
- (5) whether there is any plan to increase the frequency of cleansing public toilets and the details of resources (including manpower and expenditure) to be involved.

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

- (1) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) manages 799 public toilets with a flushing system, comprising 90 on Hong Kong Island, 62 in Kowloon and 647 in the New Territories and on outlying islands. In addition, there are 52 aqua privies in the New Territories and on outlying islands.

- (2) The Department assesses the adequacy of public toilet services with regard to a number of factors, including the availability of toilets nearby for use by the public (including the toilets provided by other government departments and the private sector), local pedestrian flow, the availability of suitable sites for provision of public toilets, etc. The Department keeps under review the design and facilities of public toilets. The ratio of male-to-female toilet compartments is generally 1:2 for new and refurbished public toilets. The actual number of toilet compartments that can be provided mainly depends on site condition and space availability.
- (3) Generally speaking, toilet attendant services are provided in public toilets with a high patronage rate or at tourist spots. At present, 264 public toilets managed by the Department are provided with toilet attendant services, comprising 77 on Hong Kong Island, 60 in Kowloon and 127 in the New Territories or on outlying islands.
- (4) In the past 3 years (from 2016 to 2018), the Department received about 8 400 complaints concerning public toilets or bathhouses. There is no further breakdown on complaints against public toilets or bathhouses by tourist and non-tourist spots.
- (5) Dedicated deep cleansing teams have been provided for enhancing cleansing services to selected public toilets with a high patronage rate or at tourist spots since March 2019. The Department plans to provide such services to all public toilets upon renewal of respective street cleansing services contracts, at an estimated cost of about \$30 million in 2019-20 and about \$60 million per annum upon renewal of all street cleansing contracts. Some 200 additional cleansing workers will be hired under outsourced service contracts to perform the dedicated deep cleansing work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)175****(Question Serial No. 0760)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department involves “abating environmental nuisances relating to dripping air-conditioners”. Please advise this Committee on the following:

Regarding the enforcement of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance against dripping air-conditioners in the past 5 years, please set out (with a breakdown by year): (a) the number of verbal warnings or advisory letters issued; (b) the number of nuisance notices issued; and (c) the number of prosecutions instituted.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

Statistics on enforcement against dripping air-conditioners under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) in the past 5 years are provided as follows –

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of nuisance notices issued	840	1 054	2 689	4 149	3 675
No. of prosecutions instituted (Note)	3	7	81	93	61

Note: A nuisance notice will be issued when nuisance exists, requiring the nuisance be abated within a specified period. Prosecution will be taken when nuisance notices are unheeded.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of verbal warnings and advisory letters issued.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)176

(Question Serial No. 2213)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

On the enforcement of environmental hygiene legislation over the past 5 years, please advise this Committee on:

- (a) the number of prosecution against littering in each year;
- (b) the number of prosecution against spitting in each year; and
- (c) the number of full-time staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for the enforcement of the legislation, with a breakdown by rank.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

- (a)&(b) Under the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation (Cap. 132 BK), any person depositing litter on street or public place will be prosecuted. The offender is liable to a fine of up to \$25,000 and imprisonment for 6 months. Any person spits on street or public place will also be prosecuted. The offender is liable to a fine of up to \$10,000. The same offences may also be caught under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570), which empowers an enforcement officer to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) currently at \$1,500. Enforcement statistics relevant to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in the past 5 years are provided at Annex I.
- (c) A list showing the number of authorised public officers of the Department to issue FPNs, with a breakdown by rank, is set out at Annex II.

- End -

**Statistics of Enforcement Actions Taken against
Littering and Spitting Offences in the past 5 years**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of FPNs issued for littering offences	28 818	31 070	34 221	39 239	43 360
No. of FPNs issued for spitting offences	2 149	2 365	2 555	2 406	2 568
No. of summonses issued for littering offences	139	210	278	224	206
No. of summonses issued for spitting offences	2	3	3	5	5

List of Authorised Public Officers to issue FPNs

Rank	Number of Authorised Public Officers
Senior Superintendent of Environmental Health	15
Superintendent of Environmental Health	26
Chief Health Inspector	58
Senior Health Inspector	199
Health Inspector I/II	813
Senior Overseer	19
Overseer	172
Senior Foreman	409
Foreman	658
Principal Hawker Control Officer	20
Chief Hawker Control Officer	48
Senior Hawker Control Officer	231
Hawker Control Officer	324
Assistant Hawker Control Officer	1 633
Total	4 625

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)177

(Question Serial No. 0271)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the proposal in the Budget that more resources will be allocated to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for refurbishing its public toilets by phases, please advise on:

- a. the districts where the 240 public toilets to be covered by the plan are located; and
- b. whether the Department will, apart from improving ventilation and the overall cleanliness and hygiene of the public toilets from the users' perspective, also review the adequacy of those facilities for its staff and the workers hired by its cleansing service contractors (e.g. common rooms, changing rooms, lockers and drinking water supply) from the employees' perspective; if yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- a. The 240 public toilets to be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years are located across the territory. Priority will be accorded with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation.
- b. If circumstances permit, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will make available or improve the provisions for attendant rooms for public toilet attendants when the public toilets are refurbished. Facilities for the attendants to take rest, drink water and change clothes will be provided therein as far as practicable.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)178

(Question Serial No. 2223)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20, it is stated that the Department will continue to take forward initiatives to enhance pest control services, particularly in respect of mosquitoes and rodents. What are the specific measures and the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 149)

Reply:

Pest control work, such as the control of mosquito, rodent and other disease vectors, is carried out by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department). The Department carries out a series of operations including removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work at potential breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on locations in close proximity to human residences, schools, construction sites, public housing estates, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo working areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters and cross boundary ferry terminals. The Department adopts multi-pronged strategies for rodent disinfection in designated target areas through elimination of the survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfection and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. For effective control of other disease vectors, the prevention and control measures will be targeted at sites where the pest frequents.

The Department carries out vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation surveys, rat-flea surveys and ad hoc surveys on other insect pests. In response to vector-borne diseases, the Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity as well as

provide support and technical advice to other departments on mosquito and rodent prevention and control. It also provides training to staff of other departments to enhance their knowledge and skills in pest control.

The Department has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of pest control services. Dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory.

The estimated expenditure on pest control services for 2019-20 is \$681 million. About 700 departmental staff and 1 800 contractors' staff are deployed to pest control services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)179

(Question Serial No. 0132)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The financial provision on Programme (1) Food Safety and Public Health in 2019/20 is estimated at \$1,432.4m, with an increase of 9.3% compared to 2018/19. It is also stated that the Department will “follow up proactively the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) in food safety management and food import control”. In this connection, will the Administration inform the Committee:

1. of the funding allocated to CFS in each of the past 5 years and this year;
2. of the details and additional resources to be deployed in respect of the recommendations; and
3. of the current progress on the implementation of “re-engineering of workflow and overhaul of information technology systems for more effective data management in the Centre for Food Safety”.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a task group, led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission and the Legislative Council Public Accounts Committee concerning the work of CFS in food safety management and import control. The task group has commenced comprehensive reviews on CFS’ operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has started to roll out concrete and effective short, medium and long term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, and strengthening staff’s law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. In 2019-20, 35 additional civil service posts will be created

in CFS along with an additional provision of \$25 million to implement the reviews and the enhancement measures.

In addition, CFS already put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019. Specifically, a Food Trader Portal will be set up to provide a platform for electronic communication between CFS and food traders. The existing Food Import Control System will be replaced by a new IT system which will support the streamlined workflow and procedures on import control and the issuance of food export certification. There will be a newly developed Food Incident Management System to strengthen the management of food safety incidents. The above systems will interface with each other to provide a well-connected network of information in support of risk profiling and risk-based inspection to enhance food safety control.

The expenditure of CFS from 2014-15 to 2019-20 is set out as follows –

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2014-15	487
2015-16	504
2016-17	551
2017-18	592
2018-19 (revised estimate)	674
2019-20 (estimate)	752

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)180

(Question Serial No. 1468)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the mosquito breeding places eliminated, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. Hong Kong saw an outbreak of dengue fever last year with a record high number of local cases, but no enhanced preventive measures are taken this year. What are the reasons for that?
2. In the face of chemical resistance developed among mosquitoes, will new technologies be applied in mosquito control? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 46)

Reply:

1. In view of the 29 local dengue fever cases recorded in Hong Kong last year and that the disease is highly prevalent in neighbouring areas, government departments have stepped up their mosquito prevention and control work in venues under their purview.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has enhanced preventive measures in 2019. These include launching the Anti-mosquito Campaign in early 2019 to enhance public awareness on the potential risks of mosquito-borne diseases, encourage community participation and promote coordination among government departments in anti-mosquito work; as well as territory-wide Thematic Mosquito Prevention and Control Special Operation in March 2019 and July 2019 to sustain the momentum of the mosquito control work.

To enhance coordination among departments, the inter-departmental Pest Control Steering Committee (PCSC) chaired by the Under-Secretary for Food and Health met in January and March 2019 to discuss how to improve the Government's overall surveillance and to map out the focus of pest control work and work plan for the year.

The overall objectives are to strengthen prevention, co-ordination and surveillance. FEHD will arrange All-out Anti-mosquito Operations tentatively starting from early April 2019 and invite other concerned departments and members of public to take parallel action to intensify the mosquito control measures, including carrying out fogging in the scrubby areas within a 100-metre radius of residences every week to kill adult mosquitoes, removing stagnant water weekly, applying larvicides, disposing of abandoned water containers every week, and trimming of grass to remove the potential mosquito habitats.

In addition, FEHD invited property management associations in early March 2019 to remind their members to take early mosquito preventive measures with focus on eliminating potential mosquito breeding places, carrying out inspection at least once a week and removing possible places that will lead to water accumulation. For control work, they are also reminded to use larvicide to kill the mosquito larvae in water bodies and to conduct fogging operations as necessary to reduce adult mosquito density.

The Food and Health Bureau issued a letter to 18 District Councils in early March 2019 to solicit local community support and encourage the public to carry out early mosquito prevention work in private areas.

Community support is vital to the successful implementation of anti-mosquito work. FEHD will make use of a wide range of promotional channels, such as broadcast of Announcements in the Public Interests on television, radio and MTR's in-train TV, display of posters at MTR stations and bus stops, as well as advertisements on bus bodies and tram bodies to raise public awareness of mosquito prevention and control. Relevant messages are disseminated through FEHD's website and the Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak's Facebook and Instagram page to encourage community participation in anti-mosquito activities. FEHD will also organise a variety of events and activities, such as roving exhibitions at major shopping malls of housing estates, outreaching health talks, as well as games and exhibitions at the Health Education Exhibition and Resource Centre.

2. FEHD adopts an integrated approach in its mosquito prevention and control work with focus on elimination of mosquito breeding places. Pesticides would be used when biological or environmental control measures are considered not feasible or ineffective. FEHD carries out tests on pesticides used by FEHD itself and its contractors to ensure their effectiveness in controlling the target pests.

FEHD is also actively exploring the application of suitable technologies in its mosquito control work. We would keep in view mosquito prevention and control measures recommended by the World Health Organization and adopted by the Mainland and other countries, like Malaysia, Singapore as well as those in Europe and North America. Currently, FEHD is carrying out pilot tests on a mosquito control product that utilises female mosquito itself as a carrier for disseminating insect growth hormones to different water bodies, thereby preventing larvae from hatching into adults. Technologies or products tested to be effective would be applied across the territory. FEHD will keep an open mind in adopting or trying out measures that are

suitable for use in the local circumstances to further improve the effectiveness of its mosquito prevention and control work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)181

(Question Serial No. 1469)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the aim “to provide new market facilities at suitable locations”, please advise on the following:

1. What is the definition of “suitable locations” and what are the criteria for selecting such locations?
2. Is there any plan to provide new markets in 2019-2020? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build 2 new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre. The Government has also initially identified suitable sites in the east of the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) for public markets. Well-connected by public transport and close to future train stations and public transport interchanges, these new sites will be more accessible to the public. Apart from the above, we are also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North NDA to build new markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. Details will be available at a later stage when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)182

(Question Serial No. 2873)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please tabulate, by district, the respective numbers of stalls and vacant stalls and the respective vacancy rates in public markets and temporary markets over the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

- End -

District	Name of Market ^a	No. of Stalls					No. of Vacant Stalls (as at 31 December)					Vacancy Rate ^b (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Central & Western	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	151	151	151	151	5	9	3	8	13	3%	6%	2%	5%	9%
	Sheung Wan Market	222	222	222	223	223	5	3	1	3	4	2%	1%	0%	1%	2%
	Smithfield Market	216	216	216	216	216	0	0	0	1	2	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
	Centre Street Market	47	46	46	46	46	12	7	10	10	11	26%	15%	22%	22%	24%
	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	102	102	102	102	12	11	11	11	13	12%	11%	11%	11%	13%
	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	1	0	0	0	0	9%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Eastern	North Point Market	42	42	42	42	42	4	1	0	3	7	10%	2%	0%	7%	17%
	Electric Road Market	99	99	99	99	99	2	5	3	3	19	2%	5%	3%	3%	19%
	Quarry Bay Market	113	113	113	113	113	8	9	20	28	35	7%	8%	18%	25%	31%
	Yue Wan Market	374	374	374	380	380	22	13	22	18	21	6%	3%	6%	5%	6%
	Java Road Market	194	194	194	194	194	5	7	9	10	12	3%	4%	5%	5%	6%
	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	274	274	274	274	6	4	7	8	6	2%	1%	3%	3%	2%
	Aldrich Bay Market	71	71	71	71	71	13	11	10	4	6	18%	15%	14%	6%	8%
	Chai Wan Market	173	173	173	174	174	6	9	9	8	14	6%	5%	5%	5%	8%
	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Southern	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	197	197	197	197	3	0	3	6	25	2%	0%	2%	3%	13%
	Tin Wan Market	180	180	180	180	180	0	0	0	6	8	0%	0%	0%	3%	4%
	Aberdeen Market	335	335	335	335	335	4	2	4	10	13	1%	1%	1%	3%	4%

District	Name of Market ^a	No. of Stalls					No. of Vacant Stalls (as at 31 December)					Vacancy Rate ^b (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	Apleichau Market	63	63	63	63	63	1	1	0	2	2	2%	2%	0%	3%	3%
	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	28	28	3	3	4	5	5	11%	11%	14%	18%	18%
	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	20	20	20	20	1	2	1	1	3	5%	10%	5%	5%	15%
Wan Chai	Wanchai Market	50	50	50	50	50	0	0	2	1	0	0%	0%	4%	2%	0%
	Bowrington Road Market	296	296	296	296	296	2	2	10	14	21	1%	1%	3%	5%	7%
	Lockhart Road Market	166	166	166	166	166	18	28	34	38	43	11%	17%	20%	23%	26%
	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	69	69	69	69	1	2	1	2	3	1%	3%	1%	3%	4%
	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	34	34	34	34	1	1	2	2	2	3%	3%	6%	6%	6%
	Causeway Bay Market	51	51	51	51	51	0	1	1	1	2	0%	2%	2%	2%	4%
Islands	Mui Wo Market	35	35	35	35	35	0	1	1	0	3	0%	3%	3%	0%	9%
	Cheung Chau Market	237	237	240	240	240	1	0	5	5	5	0%	0%	2%	2%	2%
	Tai O Market	26	26	26	26	26	4	3	0	4	3	15%	12%	0%	15%	12%
	Peng Chau Market	18	18	18	18	18	2	1	0	1	0	11%	6%	0%	6%	0%
	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	20	20	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kowloon City	Kowloon City Market	581	581	581	581	581	12	11	1	3	31	2%	2%	0%	1%	5%
	Hung Hom Market	224	224	224	224	224	0	0	0	3	4	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%
	Tokwawan Market	267	267	267	267	267	2	2	5	3	8	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%

District	Name of Market ^a	No. of Stalls					No. of Vacant Stalls (as at 31 December)					Vacancy Rate ^b (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	13	13	13	13	0	0	1	0	0	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	466	466	466	466	58	64	59	61	65	12%	14%	13%	13%	14%
	Shui Wo Street Market	302	302	302	302	302	3	2	0	2	7	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%
	Yee On Street Market	65	65	65	65	65	1	3	1	1	5	2%	5%	2%	2%	8%
	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	20	20	20	20	0	2	0	0	1	0%	10%	0%	0%	5%
	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	29	29	29	29	0	0	0	1	1	0%	0%	0%	3%	3%
	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	2	2	0	2	3	12%	12%	0%	12%	18%
	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	56	56	56	56	0	0	0	4	4	0%	0%	0%	7%	7%
Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	402	402	402	402	22	27	30	41	54	5%	7%	7%	10%	13%
	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	71	71	71	71	0	1	0	1	1	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%
	Choi Hung Road Market	116	116	116	116	116	25	30	36	38	40	22%	26%	31%	33%	34%
	Tai Shing Street Market	446	446	442	442	442	27	21	23	29	31	6%	5%	5%	7%	7%
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	449	449	449	449	449	26	16	31	48	50	6%	4%	7%	11%	11%
	Pei Ho Street Market	227	227	227	234	234	0	0	4	2	3	0%	0%	2%	1%	1%

District	Name of Market ^a	No. of Stalls					No. of Vacant Stalls (as at 31 December)					Vacancy Rate ^b (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	Lai Wan Market	42	42	42	42	42	1	1	1	1	1	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	359	359	359	359	179	178	212	238	243	50%	50%	59%	66%	68%
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	180	180	180	180	3	0	0	3	15	2%	0%	0%	2%	8%
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	135	135	135	135	1	0	0	0	4	1%	0%	0%	0%	3%
	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Yau Tsim	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	144	144	144	144	2	2	6	9	14	1%	1%	4%	6%	10%
	Kwun Chung Market	218	218	218	218	218	2	3	5	18	33	1%	1%	2%	8%	15%
	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	88	88	88	86	86	30	30	30	26	27	34%	34%	34%	30%	31%
Sha Tin	Sha Tin Market	172	172	172	172	172	0	0	3	3	2	0%	0%	2%	2%	1%
	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	24	24	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Tai Wai Market	195	195	195	195	195	20	22	23	28	29	10%	11%	12%	14%	15%
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	313	313	313	313	313	1	2	2	1	1	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%
	Plover Cove Road Market	244	244	244	244	244	3	7	10	19	44	1%	3%	4%	8%	18%
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	392	392	392	393	393	0	1	0	0	1	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	338	338	338	338	9	2	3	0	2	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98	98	98	98	1	0	0	0	0	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%

District	Name of Market ^a	No. of Stalls					No. of Vacant Stalls (as at 31 December)					Vacancy Rate ^b (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	66	66	66	66	0	0	1	1	0	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%
Kwai Tsing	Wing Fong Street Market	112	112	112	112	114	8	8	9	2	17	7%	7%	8%	2%	15%
	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	1	1	0	0	0	6%	6%	0%	0%	0%
	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	16	16	16	15	15	3	5	6	6	6	19%	31%	38%	40%	40%
	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	11	11	1	1	2	1	1	8%	8%	17%	9%	9%
	Tsing Yi Market	76	76	76	76	76	7	7	0	1	1	9%	9%	0%	1%	1%
	North Kwai Chung Market	222	222	222	222	222	6	4	1	6	20	3%	2%	0%	3%	9%
	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	318	318	318	318	5	7	8	7	13	2%	2%	3%	2%	4%
	Tsuen Wan Market	381	381	381	381	381	14	25	27	38	42	4%	7%	7%	10%	11%
	Heung Che Street Market	223	223	223	225	225	2	9	10	5	11	1%	4%	4%	2%	5%
	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	29	29	29	29	0	0	3	3	3	0%	0%	10%	10%	10%
	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	32	32	32	32	0	2	2	2	4	0%	6%	6%	6%	13%
Tuen Mun	Yan Oi Market	108	108	108	108	108	1	2	3	2	7	1%	2%	3%	2%	6%
	San Hui Market	324	324	324	324	324	2	0	3	5	7	1%	0%	1%	2%	2%
	Lam Tei Market	7	7	7	7	7	1	0	0	0	0	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	0	0	1	0	1	0%	0%	9%	0%	9%

District	Name of Market ^a	No. of Stalls					No. of Vacant Stalls (as at 31 December)					Vacancy Rate ^b (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	20	17	17	17	17	3	0	0	0	0	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	1	0	0	0	0	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Yuen Long	Tung Yick Market	446	446	446	446	446	258	259	262	262	265	58%	58%	59%	59%	59%
	Tai Kiu Market	379	379	379	379	379	9	8	3	12	11	2%	2%	1%	3%	3%
	Hung Shui Kiu Temporay Market	215	215	174	172	172	133	135	44	58	48	62%	63%	25%	34%	28%
	Kam Tin Market	41	41	41	41	41	0	0	1	0	0	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%
	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	25	25	25	25	3	3	3	3	3	12%	12%	12%	12%	12%
	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	0	1	0	0	0	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%
	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Sai Kung	Sai Kung Market	209	209	209	209	209	1	2	2	11	18	0%	1%	1%	5%	9%
	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	34	34	34	34	0	0	5	14	15	0%	0%	15%	41%	44%

Remarks:

^a The figures exclude markets that were closed or will be closed in 2019.

^b Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)183

(Question Serial No. 2874)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to renting of stalls in public markets and temporary markets, please provide the annual figures for the past 5 years on the following:

1. the number and percentage of let-out stalls in each market;
2. the number and percentage of stalls which have been let out at a discounted rate (concessionary rent) in each market;
3. the number and percentage of let-out stalls in each cooked food centre.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex I, Annex II and Annex III.

- End -

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	No. of let out stalls (as at 31 December)					Percentage of let out stalls ^(b) (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Aberdeen Market	331	333	331	325	322	99%	99%	99%	97%	96%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	58	60	61	67	65	82%	85%	86%	94%	92%
3	Apleichau Market	62	62	63	61	61	98%	98%	100%	97%	97%
4	Bowrington Road Market	294	294	286	282	275	99%	99%	97%	95%	93%
5	Causeway Bay Market	51	50	50	50	49	100%	98%	98%	98%	96%
6	Centre Street Market	35	39	36	36	35	74%	85%	78%	78%	76%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	30	30	30	28	100%	94%	94%	94%	88%
8	Chai Wan Market	167	164	164	166	160	97%	95%	95%	95%	92%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
10	Cheung Chau Market	236	237	235	235	235	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%
11	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
12	Choi Hung Road Market	91	86	80	78	76	78%	74%	69%	67%	66%
13	Electric Road Market	97	94	96	96	80	98%	95%	97%	97%	81%
14	Fa Yuen Street Market	177	180	180	177	165	98%	100%	100%	98%	92%
15	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
16	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
17	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	58	58	58	60	59	66%	66%	66%	70%	69%
18	Heung Che Street Market	221	214	213	220	214	99%	96%	96%	98%	95%
19	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	11	10	11	10	100%	100%	91%	100%	91%
20	Hung Hom Market	224	224	224	221	220	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%
21	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	82	80	130	114	124	38%	37%	75%	66%	72%
22	Java Road Market	189	187	185	184	182	97%	96%	95%	95%	94%
23	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	13	11	10	9	9	81%	69%	63%	60%	60%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	No. of let out stalls (as at 31 December)					Percentage of let out stalls ^(b) (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
24	Kam Tin Market	41	41	40	41	41	100%	100%	98%	100%	100%
25	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	13	14	14	14	100%	93%	100%	100%	100%
26	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%
27	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
28	Kowloon City Market	569	570	580	578	550	98%	98%	100%	99%	95%
29	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
30	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	10	10	10	92%	92%	83%	91%	91%
31	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	97	98	98	98	98	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
32	Kwun Chung Market	216	215	213	200	185	99%	99%	98%	92%	85%
33	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	29	29	28	28	100%	100%	100%	97%	97%
34	Lai Wan Market	41	41	41	41	41	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%
35	Lam Tei Market	6	7	7	7	7	86%	100%	100%	100%	100%
36	Lau Fau Shan Market	22	22	22	22	22	88%	88%	88%	88%	88%
37	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	18	20	20	19	100%	90%	100%	100%	95%
38	Lockhart Road Market	148	138	132	128	123	89%	83%	80%	77%	74%
39	Luen Wo Hui Market	329	336	335	338	336	97%	99%	99%	100%	99%
40	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
41	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
42	Mui Wo Market	35	34	34	35	32	100%	97%	97%	100%	91%
43	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	25	25	24	23	23	89%	89%	86%	82%	82%
44	Ngau Chi Wan Market	380	375	372	361	348	95%	93%	93%	90%	87%
45	Ngau Tau Kok Market	408	402	407	405	401	88%	86%	87%	87%	86%
46	North Kwai Chung Market	216	218	221	216	202	97%	98%	100%	97%	91%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	No. of let out stalls (as at 31 December)					Percentage of let out stalls ^(b) (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
47	North Point Market	38	41	42	39	35	90%	98%	100%	93%	83%
48	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	13	12	13	13	100%	100%	92%	100%	100%
49	Pei Ho Street Market	227	227	223	232	231	100%	100%	98%	99%	99%
50	Peng Chau Market	16	17	18	17	18	89%	94%	100%	94%	100%
51	Plover Cove Road Market	241	237	234	225	200	99%	97%	96%	92%	82%
52	Po On Road Market	423	433	418	401	399	94%	96%	93%	89%	89%
53	Quarry Bay Market	105	104	93	85	78	93%	92%	82%	75%	69%
54	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	10	11	11	11	11	91%	100%	100%	100%	100%
55	Sai Kung Market	208	207	207	201	191	100%	99%	99%	96%	91%
56	Sai Wan Ho Market	268	270	267	266	268	98%	99%	97%	97%	98%
57	Sai Ying Pun Market	90	91	91	91	89	88%	89%	89%	89%	87%
58	San Hui Market	322	324	321	319	317	99%	100%	99%	98%	98%
59	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	66	65	65	66	100%	100%	98%	98%	100%
60	Sha Tin Market	172	172	169	169	170	100%	100%	98%	98%	99%
61	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	29	26	26	26	100%	100%	90%	90%	90%
62	Shek Tong Tsui Market	146	142	148	143	138	97%	94%	98%	95%	91%
63	Shek Wu Hui Market	392	392	392	393	392	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
64	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	70	71	70	70	100%	99%	100%	99%	99%
65	Sheung Wan Market	217	219	221	220	219	98%	99%	100%	99%	98%
66	Shui Wo Street Market	299	300	302	300	295	99%	99%	100%	99%	98%
67	Smithfield Market	216	216	216	215	214	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
68	Stanley Waterfront Mart	19	18	19	19	17	95%	90%	95%	95%	85%
69	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	15	15	17	15	14	88%	88%	100%	88%	82%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	No. of let out stalls (as at 31 December)					Percentage of let out stalls ^(b) (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
70	Tai Kiu Market	370	371	376	367	368	98%	98%	99%	97%	97%
71	Tai Kok Tsui Market	134	135	135	135	131	99%	100%	100%	100%	97%
72	Tai O Market	22	23	26	22	23	85%	88%	100%	85%	88%
73	Tai Po Hui Market	312	311	311	312	312	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%
74	Tai Shing Street Market	419	426	419	413	411	94%	96%	95%	93%	93%
75	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
76	Tai Wai Market	175	173	172	167	166	90%	89%	88%	86%	85%
77	Tang Lung Chau Market	33	33	32	32	32	97%	97%	94%	94%	94%
78	Tin Wan Market	180	180	180	174	172	100%	100%	100%	97%	96%
79	Tokwawan Market	265	265	262	264	259	99%	99%	98%	99%	97%
80	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	17	18	18	18	18	94%	100%	100%	100%	100%
81	Tsing Yi Market	69	69	76	75	75	91%	91%	100%	99%	99%
82	Tsuen Wan Market	367	356	354	343	339	96%	93%	93%	90%	89%
83	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	56	56	52	52	100%	100%	100%	93%	93%
84	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	34	29	20	19	100%	100%	85%	59%	56%
85	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	180	181	147	121	116	50%	50%	41%	34%	32%
86	Tung Yick Market	188	187	184	184	181	42%	42%	41%	41%	41%
87	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
88	Wanchai Market	50	50	48	49	50	100%	100%	96%	98%	100%
89	Wing Fong Street Market	104	104	103	110	97	93%	93%	92%	98%	85%
90	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	17	17	18	18	18	94%	94%	100%	100%	100%
91	Wong Nai Chung Market	68	67	68	67	66	99%	97%	99%	97%	96%
92	Yan Oi Market	107	106	105	106	101	99%	98%	97%	98%	94%

Serial No.	Name of Market ^(a)	No. of let out stalls (as at 31 December)					Percentage of let out stalls ^(b) (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
93	Yau Ma Tei Market	142	142	138	135	130	99%	99%	96%	94%	90%
94	Yee On Street Market	64	62	64	64	60	98%	95%	98%	98%	92%
95	Yeung Uk Road Market	313	311	310	311	305	98%	98%	97%	98%	96%
96	Yue Kwong Road Market	194	197	194	191	172	98%	100%	98%	97%	87%
97	Yue Wan Market	352	361	352	362	359	94%	97%	94%	95%	94%

Remarks:

- ^(b) The figures exclude 2 markets that were closed or will be closed in 2019.
- ^(b) The percentage refers to let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

Calendar year	Total no. of stalls (as at 31 December)	No. of stalls let out at concessionary rent	Percentage of let out stalls at concessionary rent
2014	14 443	2 549	18%
2015	14 439	2 609	18%
2016	14 397	2 629	18%
2017	14 086	1 314	9%
2018	14 088	1 265	9%

Serial No.	Name of Market with cooked food centre	No. of let out stalls in cooked food centre (as at 31 December)					Percentage of let out stalls ^(a) (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Aberdeen Market	10	10	9	9	9	100%	100%	90%	90%	90%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	3	4	4	4	3	75%	100%	100%	100%	75%
3	Apleichau Market	6	6	6	6	6	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
4	Bowrington Road Market	11	11	11	11	11	92%	92%	92%	92%	92%
5	Centre Street Market	2	2	2	2	2	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
6	Chai Wan Market	6	6	6	6	6	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
7	Choi Hung Road Market	13	13	12	11	11	68%	68%	63%	58%	58%
8	Electric Road Market	5	5	5	5	5	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
9	Fa Yuen Street Market	15	15	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
10	Heung Che Street Market	40	40	40	40	40	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11	Hung Hom Market	18	18	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
12	Java Road Market	15	15	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
13	Kam Tin Market	5	5	5	5	5	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
14	Kowloon City Market	10	10	10	10	10	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
15	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	12	12	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
16	Kwun Chung Market	19	19	17	17	16	100%	100%	89%	89%	84%
17	Lockhart Road Market	19	18	19	19	17	100%	95%	100%	100%	89%
18	Luen Wo Hui Market	18	22	19	22	20	82%	100%	86%	100%	91%
19	Ngau Chi Wan Market	14	14	15	15	15	93%	93%	100%	100%	100%
20	Ngau Tau Kok Market	20	20	20	20	20	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%
21	Pei Ho Street Market	20	20	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
22	Po On Road Market	17	19	18	17	17	89%	100%	95%	89%	89%
23	Quarry Bay Market	5	5	4	4	4	100%	100%	80%	80%	80%

Serial No.	Name of Market with cooked food centre	No. of let out stalls in cooked food centre (as at 31 December)					Percentage of let out stalls ^(a) (as at 31 December)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
24	Sai Wan Ho Market	8	8	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
25	Sha Tau Kok Market	8	8	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
26	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	8	8	7	7	7	100%	100%	88%	88%	88%
27	Shek Tong Tsui Market	15	15	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
28	Shek Wu Hui Market	28	28	28	28	28	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
29	Sheung Wan Market	20	20	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
30	Shui Wo Street Market	20	20	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
31	Smithfield Market	12	12	12	12	11	100%	100%	100%	100%	92%
32	Tai Kok Tsui Market	12	12	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
33	Tai Po Hui Market	39	38	38	39	40	98%	95%	95%	98%	100%
34	Tai Shing Street Market	10	11	10	10	10	91%	100%	91%	91%	91%
35	Tin Wan Market	10	10	10	10	10	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
36	Tokwawan Market	8	8	8	7	7	100%	100%	100%	88%	88%
37	Wong Nai Chung Market	6	6	6	6	6	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
38	Yue Kwong Road Market	16	16	15	15	15	100%	100%	94%	94%	94%
39	Yue Wan Market	20	20	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Remarks:

- ^(a) The percentage refers to let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market.
Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)184

(Question Serial No. 2875)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

On building and management of temporary markets across the territory under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please tabulate, by district, the following information on all temporary markets:

1. their respective construction costs;
2. their respective construction periods;
3. their respective operating expenses; and
4. a breakdown of their operating expenses.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

The majority of the public markets (including temporary ones) managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) were built and commissioned in the era of the former Urban Council and Regional Council decades ago. The Department does not have records of their construction cost and construction periods. The total operating cost on management of public markets in 2018-19 (revised estimate) is \$853.1 million. There is no breakdown by individual markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)185

(Question Serial No. 2876)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the rate of rental adjustment for stalls in the 99 public markets, temporary markets and cooked food markets in the territory in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by district.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

Public market rentals had been frozen since 1998 for about 19 years until June 2017. Starting from 1 July 2017, a new mechanism for annual rental adjustment upon renewal of tenancy or on the due date for rental adjustment as specified in the tenancy agreement has been put in place. Annual adjustment is made with reference to the average year-on-year change in Consumer Price Index (A) in the 12-month period 6 months before the tenancy is renewed or preceding the due date for rental adjustment. The new mechanism applies to new tenancy agreements entered or agreements renewed on or after 1 July 2017. Taking the tenancy agreements renewed on 1 July 2017 and 1 July 2018 as examples, stall rentals were increased by 2.9% and 1.5% respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)186

(Question Serial No. 2877)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the construction cost (including the cost of ground investigation (if any) and building cost), operating cost, items of operation and construction period of the 99 public markets, temporary markets and cooked food markets in the territory.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The majority of the public markets (including temporary ones) managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) were built and commissioned in the era of the former Urban Council and Regional Council decades ago. The Department does not have records of their construction cost and construction periods. The total operating cost on management of public markets in 2018-19 (revised estimate) is \$853.1 million. There is no breakdown by individual markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)187****(Question Serial No. 2878)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to “oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets”, please provide the following information:

- It is mentioned in the 2018 Policy Address that the Government will build public markets in Tung Chung, Tin Shui Wai, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North and Hung Shui Kiu. In this connection, please set out in tabular form the estimated size/number of stalls, estimated construction cost (including the cost of ground investigation (if any) and building cost), estimated commencement date of construction works and construction period required for the provision of public markets in Tung Chung, Tin Shui Wai, Tseung Kwan O, Kwu Tung North and Hung Shui Kiu respectively.
- Please set out as per the table below the estimated cost and construction period required for the following market construction proposals:

	Estimated cost	Estimated construction period	Estimated commencement date of construction works	Estimated operating cost
Deck Over option in Tin Shui Wai				
Tin Shui Wai Station Square option				
Area 6 of Tung Chung Town Centre option				

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build 2 new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre. The Government has also initially identified suitable sites in the east of the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) for public markets. Well-connected by public transport and close to future train stations and public transport interchanges, these new sites will be more accessible to the public. Apart from the above, we are also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North NDA to build new markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets which will give the public more choices in purchasing fresh food. Further details of the new market projects would be available when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)188

(Question Serial No. 2879)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to “oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations”, please provide:

1. the expenditure on and expected publication date of the study report on the provision of new public markets in Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai;
2. the expected number of people to be served by the new public markets in Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai, with a breakdown by public housing resident in the district, Home Ownership Scheme resident in the district, resident of private residential development in the district, and non-resident of the district;
3. the maximum number of stalls that can be set up under the proposed design options (including the Deck Over option and the Station Square option) for the new public markets in Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 42)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build 2 new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) consulted the relevant District Councils in October 2018. When selecting the proposed sites for the new public markets, consideration had been given to their geographical location, current and planned uses, usable area and ancillary transport facilities nearby, in order to ensure that, upon completion, the markets will be of a substantial scale and viability and that public finances and land resources can be optimised. Well-connected by public transport and close to train stations and public transport interchanges, the new market sites at the section of Tin Fuk Road in Tin Shui Wai and Area 6 in Tung Chung Town Centre, will be more accessible to the public in purchasing fresh food. According to our preliminary planning, at least 100 stalls will be provided in each of these new markets. The projects are at different stages of planning. Details of the

projects would be available at a later stage when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning of the 2 new markets with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)189

(Question Serial No. 2880)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the number, estimated construction cost and estimated operating cost of temporary markets to be provided in various districts in the coming 5 years, with a breakdown by district.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

Similar to the case of permanent markets, relevant hygiene and safety requirements will need to be fulfilled for the operation of temporary markets. Considerable amount of resources will be required to provide the basic facilities for temporary markets, such as ceiling, stall partitions, electrical installations, water supply system, drainage system, sewage system, ventilation facilities, lighting systems, fire safety system, refuse processing facilities, loading areas, etc., if they were to be built. Experience also suggests many challenges in identifying a suitable location for the provision of temporary markets. The difficulty in planning and providing temporary markets cannot be underestimated. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department currently has no plans to provide more temporary markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)190

(Question Serial No. 2881)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the number of markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department of which the management service was contracted out to private sector in the past and the operating costs involved, with a breakdown by district.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

Reply:

The information sought is set out at Annex.

- End -

**Service Contracts for Provision of Management, Cleansing
and Pest Control Services for Public Markets**

District	No. of Public Markets	Contract Value[^] (as at 31 December 2018) (\$ million)
Central & Western	6	27.9
Southern	6	20.1
Wan Chai	6	25.4
Islands	6	11.8
Kowloon City	4	20.3
Wong Tai Sin	4	28.7
Sham Shui Po	5	22.5
Mong Kok	3	14.5
Yau Tsim	3	11.3
Tai Po	2	15.4
North	4	27.0
Yuen Long	8	16.5
Tuen Mun	6	12.2

[^]The contracts last for 2 years.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)191

(Question Serial No. 2882)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the progress of providing new public market facilities at selected locations,

- (1) please set out the details of the studies and consultations on the provision of new public markets in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North New Development Area respectively, including:
 - a. the details of the preliminary/feasibility studies, including dates and targets of consultation, timetable for and estimated expenditure involved in conducting the studies, etc.;
 - b. the estimated expenditure involved in organising consultation sessions, research and identification of locations, planning and design, site investigation, etc.
- (2) please set out the details of the studies and consultations on the provision of new public markets in Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai respectively, including:
 - a. the number of consultation sessions and the month when they are held;
 - b. the funding earmarked for local consultations;
 - c. the date of announcement of the consultation results; and
 - d. the funding allocated for the provision of new public markets.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

As announced in the Policy Address 2018, the Government plans to build 2 new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) consulted the relevant District Councils in October 2018 and on various occasions listened to the views of stakeholders, on the proposed new market projects. We are also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North New Development Area to build new markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets and will liaise with stakeholders as appropriate with regard to the progress of the works.

The Department has set up a dedicated team, among other duties, to take forward the planning of new markets (including stakeholders' engagement) with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. Details of the new market projects would be available at a later stage when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)192

(Question Serial No. 2883)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the expenditure on environmental hygiene of the markets of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please give the following information in respect of public markets in various districts with a tabulated breakdown by district:

- (1) the number of cleansing workers;
- (2) the number of additional cleansing workers to be employed and the relevant additional expenditure; and
- (3) the expenditure on engaging outsourced cleansing service providers in the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

- (1)&(3) The information sought is provided at Annex I and Annex II respectively.
- (2) The number of cleansing workers is specified in the market contracts in relation to cleansing service. When these contracts are renewed, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will review the number of cleansing workers according to operational needs.

- End -

District	Market	No. of contractual cleansing staff
Eastern	Chai Wan Market	118
	Yue Wan Market	
	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	
	Aldrich Bay Market	
	Sai Wan Ho Market	
	Quarry Bay Market	
	Electric Road Market	
	North Point Market	
	Java Road Market	
Central & Western	Sheung Wan Market	74
	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	
	Sai Ying Pun Market	
	Centre Street Market	
	Shek Tong Tsui Market	
	Smithfield Market	
Southern	Aberdeen Market	43
	Apleichau Market	
	Tin Wan Market	
	Yue Kwong Road Market	
	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	
	Stanley Waterfront Mart	
Islands	Cheung Chau Market	28
	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	
	Peng Chau Market	
	Mui Wo Market	
	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	
	Tai O Market	
Wanchai	Lockhart Road Market	55
	Bowrington Road Market	
	Wan Chai Market	
	Wong Nai Chung Market	
	Causeway Bay Market	
	Tang Lung Chau Market	
Kowloon City	Kowloon City Market	46
	To Kwa Wan Market	
	Hung Hom Market	
	On Ching Road Flower Market	

District	Market	No. of contractual cleansing staff
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	27
	Yau Ma Tei Market	
	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	
Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Market	77
	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	
	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	
	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	
	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	
	Lei Yue Mun Market	
	Shui Wo Street Market	
Yee On Street Market		
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	59
	Pei Ho Street Market	
	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	
	Lai Wan Market	
	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market	
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market	87
	Choi Hung Road Market	
	Ngau Chi Wan Market	
	Sheung Fung Street Market	
Mongkok	Fa Yuen Street Market	32
	Tai Kok Tsui Market	
	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market	45
	Wing Fong Street Market	
	Tsing Yi Market	
	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	
	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	
	Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	
	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	
	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	
Tsuen Wan	Yeung UK Road Market	88
	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	
	Heung Che Street Market	
	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	
	Tsuen Wan Market	

District	Market	No. of contractual cleansing staff
Tuen Mun	San Hui Market	24
	Lam Tei Market	
	Yan Oi Market	
	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	
	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	
	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	36
	Plover Cove Road Market	
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	75
	Luen Wo Hui Market	
	Sha Tau Kok Market	
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	
Sai Kung	Sai Kung Market	17
	Tui Min Hoi Market	
Yuen Long	Tai Kiu Market	43
	Tung Yick Market	
	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	
	Kam Tin Market	
	Lau Fau Shan Market	
	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	
	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	
	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	
Shatin	Sha Tin Market	29
	Tai Wai Market	
	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	
	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	
Total: 1 003		

Expenditure for Market Cleansing Contracts

District	(\$ million)				
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Eastern	19.4	19.5	18.5	18.0	18.0
Central & Western	13.3	12.8	13.0	13.0	13.7
Southern	9.8	10.0	10.1	10.1	10.1
Islands	5.4	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.9
Wanchai	9.8	9.9	10.9	11.6	12.2
Kowloon City	8.9	8.8	9.2	9.3	9.9
Yau Tsim	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.6
Kwun Tong	11.4	11.6	12.1	12.3	12.8
Sham Shui Po	9.1	9.2	9.6	9.7	10.9
Wong Tai Sin	12.0	11.9	11.8	11.7	12.8
Mongkok	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.7	6.2
Kwai Tsing	6.1	6.1	6.6	6.7	7.3
Tsuen Wan	12.4	12.6	12.7	12.8	13.0
Tuen Mun	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.5	6.1
Tai Po	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.7
North	12.4	12.0	12.6	12.8	13.4
Sai Kung	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1
Yuen Long	8.2	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.8
Shatin	5.3	5.2	4.7	4.8	5.5

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)193

(Question Serial No. 2884)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the revitalisation of public markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please provide in tabular form (with a breakdown by district):

1. the number and names of public markets, of which the use will be changed in the coming 5 years, as well as the estimated cost involved;
2. the number and names of public markets demolished for redevelopment in the past 5 years and the expenditure required;
3. the number and names of public markets expected to be demolished for redevelopment in the coming 5 years and the estimated cost involved;
4. the number and names of public markets that were converted to other uses (including community or commercial use) in the past 5 years and the expenditure required; and
5. the number and names of public markets to be overhauled in the coming 5 years and the estimated cost involved.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

- 1.-4. As promulgated in the 2018 Policy Address, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

As a result of demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has

been diminishing over time, with some having very low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closure of such markets will release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. When considering whether an under-utilised market is to be closed, FEHD will take into account a host of factors, including the vacancy rate, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the likely cost-effectiveness of upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. FEHD will consult the relevant District Council(s) and the market tenants to be affected on any market closure plans.

Where a market is closed and the premises are no longer required by FEHD, the vacated building will be handled according to established procedures. Depending on the circumstances, the Government Property Agency, Planning Department or Lands Department may be requested to seek inputs from other government departments on proposals to put the premises to gainful long-term uses.

In the past 5 years ending 31 March 2019, 3 markets, namely Shau Kei Wan Market, Tsuen King Circuit Market and Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market were closed due to consistently high vacancy rates. Their closure resulted in reduction of annual operating cost of about \$11.4 million.

FEHD is planning to close Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market and Tui Min Hoi Market in 2019-20 which is expected to result in reduction of annual operating cost of about \$3.3 million.

5. Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, FEHD has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. FEHD has been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market MMP project are finalised, FEHD will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

FEHD has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated staff cost in 2019-20 is about \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)194

(Question Serial No. 2885)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in the Policy Address that \$2 billion has been earmarked in the Budget for the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme, which has been launched with the overhaul of Aberdeen Market as the pioneering project. In this regard,

1. please provide a breakdown of the expenditure involved in the overhaul of Aberdeen Market and the anticipated completion date of the project.
2. please list the public markets covered by the Market Modernisation Programme.
3. will any arrangements (e.g. re-location, compensation) be provided for market stall operators affected by the works under the Market Modernisation Programme?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

As regards possible assistance to tenants of a market subject to revitalisation, the Government will fully consider relevant circumstances under the current policy.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)195

(Question Serial No. 2886)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

After implementing the Market Modernisation Programme mentioned in last year's Budget, will the Department extend the programme to other public markets and seek additional provisions? If yes, what is the estimated amount?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 55)

Reply:

Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward.

The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for the Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department will continue to follow up on the first phase projects and identify more markets suitable for the MMP, so as to make the best use of the \$2 billion earmarked, to improve operating environment of the markets. We will assess the need for more funding at a later stage when the funds earmarked are about to be fully committed.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)196

(Question Serial No. 2887)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the work of “managing and maintaining existing public markets, including revitalisation as appropriate”, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. Please set out the names of existing public markets where refurbishment and maintenance are to be carried out and the breakdown of estimated expenditure involved in the coming 10 years.
2. In reply to the questions regarding the Budget last year raised by the Legislative Council, the Department stated that the capital and recurrent expenditure of any project that might be implemented under the Market Modernisation Programme could only be determined upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment. In this connection, please set out the progress of the studies, as well as the estimated capital and recurrent expenditure of each public market.
3. Please set out occupancy rate of stalls in each public market in the past 5 years. Has the Department adopted any measures to improve the occupancy rate of markets assessed as under-utilised?
4. Please set out the under-utilised markets which were closed in the past 5 years and the expenditure involved. Does the Department have any plans to convert those closed markets into cooked food centres or community kitchens? Will expenditure be earmarked for conducting the relevant studies?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

1&2. Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and

Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for the Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

3. The information sought is provided at Annex.

As an on-going initiative, the Department has been taking forward measures to improve the operating environment of public markets, including replacement of aged lifts and escalators, improvement of ventilation, lighting systems and fire services, refurbishment of external walls, refurbishment of toilets, etc. as appropriate. Promotional activities are also conducted to enhance the patronage of public markets. These include festive celebration and thematic activities, display of multi-language recipes as well as publication of booklets which provide updated market information.

The Department is carefully reviewing the arrangements concerning vacant stalls and will study the feasibility of different arrangements, for example, letting out vacant market stalls through short-term tenancy to allow more flexibility.

4. As promulgated in the 2018 Policy Address, the Department is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development. Where a market is closed and the premises are no longer required by the Department, the vacated building space will be handled according to established procedures. Depending on the circumstances, the Government Property Agency, Planning Department or Lands Department may be requested to seek inputs from other government departments on proposals to put the premises to gainful long-term use.

In the past 5 years ending 31 March 2019, 3 markets, namely Shau Kei Wan Market, Tsuen King Circuit Market and Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market were closed due to consistently high vacancy rates. Their closure resulted in a reduction of annual operating cost of about \$11.4 million.

- End -

Serial No.	Name of Market	No. of stalls					Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(a)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Aldrich Bay Market	71	71	71	71	71	82%	85%	86%	94%	92%
2	Apleichau Market	63	63	63	63	63	98%	98%	100%	97%	97%
3	Centre Street Market	47	46	46	46	46	74%	85%	78%	78%	76%
4	Chai Wan Market	173	173	173	174	174	94%	95%	95%	95%	92%
5	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	20	20	20	20	100%	90%	100%	100%	95%
6	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	338	338	338	338	97%	99%	99%	100%	99%
7	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
8	Peng Chau Market	18	18	18	18	18	89%	94%	100%	94%	100%
9	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	91%	100%	100%	100%	100%
10	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	102	102	102	102	88%	89%	89%	89%	87%
11	San Hui Market	324	324	324	324	324	99%	100%	99%	98%	98%
12	Sha Tin Market	172	172	172	172	172	100%	100%	98%	98%	99%
13	Shek Wu Hui Market	392	392	392	393	393	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
14	Tai Kiu Market	379	379	379	379	379	98%	98%	99%	97%	97%
15	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	135	135	135	135	99%	100%	100%	100%	97%
16	Tai Po Hui Market	313	313	313	313	313	100%	99%	99%	100%	100%
17	Tsing Yi Market	76	76	76	76	76	91%	91%	100%	99%	99%
18	Wanchai Market	50	50	50	50	50	100%	100%	96%	98%	100%
19	Yan Oi Market	108	108	108	108	108	99%	98%	97%	98%	94%
20	Yee On Street Market	65	65	65	65	65	98%	95%	98%	98%	92%
21	Yue Wan Market	374	374	374	380	380	94%	97%	94%	95%	94%
22	Bowrington Road Market	296	296	296	296	296	99%	99%	99%	95%	93%
23	Hung Hom Market	224	224	224	224	224	100%	100%	100%	99%	98%
24	Java Road Market	194	194	194	194	194	97%	96%	95%	95%	94%
25	Lockhart Road Market	166	166	166	166	166	89%	83%	80%	77%	74%
26	Pei Ho Street Market	227	227	227	234	234	100%	100%	98%	99%	99%
27	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	274	274	274	274	98%	99%	97%	97%	98%
28	Sheung Wan Market	222	222	222	223	223	98%	99%	100%	99%	98%

Serial No.	Name of Market	No. of stalls					Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(a)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
29	Smithfield Market	216	216	216	216	216	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
30	Tai Shing Street Market	446	446	442	442	442	94%	95%	95%	93%	93%
31	Tokwawan Market	267	267	267	267	267	99%	99%	98%	99%	97%
32	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	69	69	69	69	99%	97%	99%	97%	96%
33	Aberdeen Market	335	335	335	335	335	99%	99%	99%	97%	96%
34	Causeway Bay Market	51	51	51	51	51	100%	98%	98%	98%	96%
35	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	32	32	32	32	100%	94%	94%	94%	87.5%
36	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
37	Cheung Chau Market	237	237	240	240	240	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%
38	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market ^(b)	28	28	28	28	28	43%	43%	43%	39%	39%
39	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	12	12	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
40	Choi Hung Road Market	116	116	116	116	116	78%	74%	69%	67%	66%
41	Electric Road Market	99	99	99	99	99	98%	95%	97%	97%	81%
42	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	180	180	180	180	98%	100%	100%	98%	92%
43	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	24	24	24	24	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
44	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	15	15	15	15	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
45	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	88	88	88	86	86	66%	66%	66%	70%	69%
46	Heung Che Street Market	223	223	223	225	225	99%	96%	96%	98%	95%
47	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	100%	100%	91%	100%	91%
48	Hung Shui Kiu Market	215	215	174	172	172	38%	37%	75%	66%	72%
49	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	16	16	16	15	15	81%	69%	62%	60%	60%
50	Kam Tin Market	41	41	41	41	41	100%	100%	98%	100%	100%
51	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	100%	93%	100%	100%	100%
52	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	20	17	17	17	17	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%
53	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	14	14	14	14	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
54	Kowloon City Market	581	581	581	581	581	98%	98%	100%	99%	95%

Serial No.	Name of Market	No. of stalls					Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(a)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
55	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	11	11	11	11	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
56	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	12	12	12	11	11	92%	92%	83%	91%	91%
57	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	98	98	98	98	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
58	Kwun Chung Market	218	218	218	218	218	99%	99%	98%	92%	85%
59	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	29	29	29	29	100%	100%	100%	97%	97%
60	Lai Wan Market	42	42	42	42	42	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%
61	Lam Tei Market	7	7	7	7	7	86%	100%	100%	100%	100%
62	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	25	25	25	25	88%	88%	88%	88%	88%
63	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	20	20	20	20	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
64	Mui Wo Market	35	35	35	35	35	100%	97%	97%	100%	91%
65	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	28	28	28	28	89%	89%	86%	82%	82%
66	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	402	402	402	402	95%	93%	93%	90%	87%
67	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	466	466	466	466	88%	86%	87%	87%	86%
68	North Kwai Chung Market	222	222	222	222	222	97%	98%	100%	97%	91%
69	North Point Market	42	42	42	42	42	90%	98%	100%	93%	83%
70	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	13	13	13	13	100%	100%	92%	100%	100%
71	Plover Cove Road Market	244	244	244	244	244	99%	97%	96%	92%	82%
72	Po On Road Market	449	449	449	449	449	94%	96%	93%	89%	89%
73	Quarry Bay Market	113	113	113	113	113	93%	92%	82%	75%	69%
74	Sai Kung Market	209	209	209	209	209	100%	99%	99%	95%	91%
75	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	66	66	66	66	100%	100%	98%	98%	100%
76	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	29	29	29	29	100%	100%	90%	90%	90%
77	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	151	151	151	151	97%	94%	98%	95%	91%

Serial No.	Name of Market	No. of stalls ^(a)					Occupancy rate as at 31 December ^(a)				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
78	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	71	71	71	71	100%	99%	100%	99%	99%
79	Shui Wo Street Market	302	302	302	302	302	99%	99%	100%	99%	98%
80	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	20	20	20	20	95%	90%	95%	95%	85%
81	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	17	17	17	17	88%	88%	100%	88%	82%
82	Tai O Market	26	26	26	26	26	85%	88%	100%	85%	88%
83	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
84	Tai Wai Market	195	195	195	195	195	90%	89%	88%	86%	85%
85	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	34	34	34	34	97%	97%	94%	94%	94%
86	Tin Wan Market	180	180	180	180	180	100%	100%	100%	97%	96%
87	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	98%	100%	100%	100%	100%
88	Tsuen Wan Market	381	381	381	381	381	96%	93%	93%	90%	89%
89	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	56	56	56	56	100%	100%	100%	93%	93%
90	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	34	34	34	34	100%	100%	85%	59%	56%
91	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	359	359	359	359	50%	50%	41%	34%	32%
92	Tung Yick Market	446	446	446	446	446	42%	42%	41%	41%	41%
93	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	8	8	8	8	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
94	Wing Fong Street Market	112	112	112	112	114	93%	93%	92%	98%	85%
95	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	18	18	18	18	94%	94%	100%	100%	100%
96	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	144	144	144	144	99%	99%	96%	94%	90%
97	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	318	318	318	318	98%	98%	97%	98%	96%
98	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	197	197	197	197	98%	100%	98%	97%	87%

Remarks:

- (a) Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- (b) Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market is planned to be closed in June 2019.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)197

(Question Serial No. 2888)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the progress of the Hawker Assistance Scheme, please advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) The five-year assistance scheme just ended last year. What are the total expenditure and balance (if any) of the scheme to date?
- (b) What is the expenditure or estimated expenditure involved for the review on re-issuing hawker licences?
- (c) Will the Department provide additional funding to further improve the fire safety and operating environment of fixed-pitch hawker areas?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

Reply:

- (a) The five-year Hawker Assistance Scheme (HAS) started in June 2013 with an approved commitment of \$230 million. As at 28 February 2019, the total expenditure incurred is \$222.3 million and another \$651,000 is committed for payment to applicants upon completion of stall reconstruction. There will be a remaining balance of about \$7 million upon the conclusion of HAS.
- (b) The re-allocation of vacant hawker pitches to eligible persons is undertaken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) with a team of 12 staff at an estimated annual expenditure of about \$6.7 million.
- (c) The HAS has accomplished its objective to reduce the fire risks posed by on-street hawking activities. Taken together, 4 278 out of 4 329 (i.e. 98.8%) licensed hawkers in the 43 hawker areas had joined HAS. The small number of licensed hawkers who did not join HAS have made or are making arrangements to comply with the

prescribed fire safety requirements for their stalls out of their own funds. There is no need for the Department to set aside additional resources for this cause.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)198

(Question Serial No. 2889)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the work of “managing licensed hawker pitches, hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars”, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Given that the Department plans to re-allocate vacant fixed hawker pitches to members of the general public by way of licensing, what is the validity period of the hawker licences to be re-issued? Will the Department formulate criteria for the renewal of hawker licences or require all licensees to surrender their hawker licences upon expiry of the validity period?
- (b) Please set out the quota for application for vacant fixed hawker pitches. Will the Department allocate the remaining quota for any category of applicants to other categories of which the number of applicants exceeds the quota (e.g. the categories of members of the general public or registered assistants)?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 59)

Reply:

- (a) To promote healthy turnover of hawker licences and allow admission of new traders, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) is considering the merits of specifying an operation validity period for new hawker licences for the registered assistant and general public categories, say for 5 years, when the vacant fixed pitches are re-allocated to them. The Department will continue to listen to views on this operation validity period.
- (b) The Department proposes to apportion the vacant pitches equally among 4 categories of applicants, namely (i) licensed newspaper hawkers; (ii) licensed itinerant hawkers; (iii) registered assistants with 5 years or more experience at the same pitch; and (iv) members of the general public satisfying certain basic criteria. If the vacant pitches set aside for a particular category are not all taken up, the Department will re-assign

the unused pitches to other categories in a fair and transparent manner. We are now working on the detailed arrangements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)199

(Question Serial No. 2890)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work of “managing licensed hawker pitches, hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars”, will the Department inform this Committee of the following:

1. How many consultation sessions with the trade, regional forums and public forums have been organised by the Department on the policy of re-allocation of vacant fixed hawker pitches to members of the public?
2. Please set out the number of each category of fixed-pitch hawker licences (with a breakdown by the first, second and third category) which are now available for re-allocation to members of the public and the locations of such hawker pitches.
3. If support from District Councils is obtained, will the Department consider setting up new fixed hawker pitches in other areas, so that members of the public can apply for a fixed-pitch hawker licence and operate at such pitches?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

1. Between March and April 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) reached out to some 7 500 general public applicants who had submitted applications in the 2010 hawker pitch re-allocation exercise but were unsuccessful. Amongst the 3 600 applicants successfully interviewed, over 70% expressed interest in joining the hawking trade if an opportunity arose. In addition, between September and October 2018, 17 meetings were held with the Hawker Management Consultative Committees of 43 hawker areas and relevant trade associations to listen to their views on the proposal to re-allocate the vacant pitches. The Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene discussed the proposal at the meeting on

11 December 2018 and met with deputations at a special meeting on 28 January 2019. The Department also expects to complete the consultation with relevant District Councils (or their committees) in the first half of 2019.

2. The information sought is provided at Annex.
3. The Department's priority task is to expeditiously re-allocate vacant pitches in existing fixed-pitch hawker areas so as to respond to the stakeholders' expectations upon the conclusion of the Hawker Assistance Scheme. We have no plans to set up new hawker areas at the moment.

- End -

**Summary of Available Vacant Hawker Pitches for Re-allocation (by commodity category)
(Position as at 31.12.2018)**

District	Hawker Street	Number of available vacant hawker pitches for re-allocation ^a (by commodity category)		
		Class II ^c /III ^d	Class III ^d	Total
Eastern	Chun Yeung Street ^b	1	0	1
	Marble Road ^b	11	0	11
	Kam Wa Street ^b	6	0	6
	Tai Tak Street ^b	4	0	4
	Sub-total	22	0	22
Central and Western	Pottinger Street ^b	3	0	3
	Graham Street ^b	6	0	6
	Peel Street ^b	4	0	4
	Upper Lascar Row ^b	1	0	1
	Aberdeen Street	1	0	1
	Douglas Lane	1	0	1
	Elgin Street	1	0	1
	Unnamed lane connecting Pedder Street and Theatre Lane	1	0	1
	Gilman's Bazaar	1	0	1
	Findlay Road	0	1	1
Sub-total	19	1	20	
Wan Chai	Gresson Street ^b	7	0	7
	Cross Street ^b	2	0	2
	Tai Yuen Street ^b	2	0	2
	Jardine's Crescent ^b	22	0	22
	Wun Sha Street	26	0	26
	Sub-total	59	0	59
Yau Tsim	Reclamation Street ^b	21	0	21
	Canton Road ^b	14	0	14
	Bowring Street ^b	5	0	5
	Temple Street ^b	0	69	69
	Pitt Street	2	0	2
	Sub-total	42	69	111
Mongkok	Tung Choi Street ^b	0	28	28
	Canton Road ^b	31	0	31
	Fife Street ^b	8	0	8
	Yin Chong Street ^b	4	0	4
	Ki Lung Street ^b	5	0	5
	Poplar Street ^b	3	0	3
	Nelson Street ^b	3	0	3
	Nam Tau Street	1	0	1
Sub-total	55	28	83	

District	Hawker Street	Number of available vacant hawker pitches for re-allocation ^a (by commodity category)		
		Class II ^c /III ^d	Class III ^d	Total
Sham Shui Po	Wing Lung Street ^b	37	0	37
	Fat Tseung Street ^b	6	0	6
	Cheung Fat Street ^b	14	0	14
	Fuk Wing Street ^b	1	0	1
	Pei Ho Street ^b	1	0	1
	Apliu Street ^b	4	0	4
	Ki Lung Street ^b	2	0	2
	Sub-total	65	0	65
Kowloon City	Pau Chung Street ^b	18	0	18
	Sub-total	18	0	18
Tsuen Wan	Hau Tei Square Hawker Bazaar	47	0	47
	Sub-total	47	0	47
	Total	327	98	425

- Note:
- ^a The figures include fixed-pitch (other class) only.
 - ^b Fixed-pitch hawker area under the Hawker Assistance Scheme.
 - ^c Class II: food-related dried goods/preserved foods; fruits; prepacked food and drinks; bread, cakes and confectioneries; Chinese herbs and medicines; etc.
 - ^d Class III: non-food related dried goods.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)200

(Question Serial No. 2894)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The advance works for the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area will commence in 2019. The Government plans to select a site in the area for building a public market. In this connection, please advise on:

- a. whether the Department has planned to build the market at the RSc site near Sha Chau Lei Tsuen;
- b. whether the Department will select other potential sites (such as the RSc site near Fung Kong Tsuen) to build the market;
- c. the estimated construction cost and operating cost of the market;
- d. the size, numbers of floors and stalls, and any other ancillary facilities of the market;
- e. the construction timetable, i.e. the estimated commencement date and completion date of the construction works; and
- f. whether the market is to be operated and managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

The Government has initially identified a suitable site in the southwest of Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) to build a public market. Well-connected by public transport and close to future train station and public transport interchange, the new market site will be more accessible to the public. Further details of the new market project would be available at a later stage when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)201

(Question Serial No. 2897)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the public markets involved in the Market Modernisation Programme and the estimated cost of individual works items, with a breakdown by name of markets, works type (e.g. in-situ redevelopment/reprovisioning/major overhaul/retrofitting of air-conditioning/others), commencement date of works and estimated cost or expenditure.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward.

The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for the Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)202

(Question Serial No. 2902)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In relation to the "licensing regime and management of hawker permitted places and hawker bazaars", please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of licensed tradesmen (including cobblers, locksmiths and watch repairers) registered in each of the past 10 years with a breakdown by district;
2. the number of fixed-pitch hawker licence applications received in each of the past 10 years with a breakdown by district and category of licences;
3. the number of fixed-pitch hawker licences newly issued in each of the past 10 years with a breakdown by district and category of licences; and
4. the date, details and related expenditure of the latest survey on street tradesmen conducted by the Department.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 93)

Reply:

1. Information on the number of licensed tradesmen in the territory in the past 5 years is provided at Annex I.
- 2-3. It has been the established policy of the Government that no new hawker licences will be issued under normal circumstances. Following a review in 2008-09, and having consulted relevant stakeholders, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) issued a total of 218 on-street fixed-pitch hawker licences in 2010 and 2011, out of 9 510 applications received. A breakdown of the licences issued by district is provided at Annex II.

As at 31 December 2018, there were a total of 425 vacant hawker pitches identified to

be suitable for re-allocation after the conclusion of the five-year Assistance Scheme for Hawkers in Fixed-pitch Hawker Areas in June 2018. The Department proposes to allocate these hawker pitches to 4 categories of applicants, namely, licensed newspaper hawkers, licensed itinerant hawkers, registered assistants with 5 years or more experience at the same hawker pitch and members of the general public satisfying certain basic criteria. The Department has briefed the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene and is now consulting relevant District Councils. The Department aims to finalise the allocation arrangement as soon as possible and invite applications for the hawker licences in 2019.

4. The Department conducted a fact-finding exercise in 2009 to take stock of the number of unlicensed street traders conducting tradesman activities, their trading locations, type of business, length of services at the relevant locations, etc. The exercise was conducted with the resources available then, and no breakdown on the expenditure was available.

- End -

Number of Licensed Tradesmen in the past 5 years

Calendar Year	Central & Western	Wan Chai	Eastern	Yau Tsim Mong	Sham Shui Po	Kowloon City	Kwun Tong	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	Total
2014	87	14	16	53	2	2	1	0	1	176
2015	85	14	15	52	2	2	1	0	1	172
2016	81	15	13	52	2	2	1	0	0	166
2017	75	15	13	50	2	2	1	3	0	161
2018	73	15	11	49	2	3	6	7	0	166

Number of Fixed-Pitch Hawker Licences Issued in 2010 and 2011

District	Number of Licences Issued	
	2010	2011
Central & Western	10	0
Kowloon City	82	0
Sham Shui Po	110	0
Yau Tsim Mong	11	0
Southern	2	3
Total	215	3

During the application period from 10 March 2010 to 30 March 2010, a total of 9 510 applications were received.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)203

(Question Serial No. 2906)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to hawker control and the issue of hawker licences, please advise this Committee on the following:

1. What is the number of itinerant hawker licences in the territory? Please provide the information with a breakdown by district and licence category;
2. What are the respective numbers of itinerant hawkers of different age groups? Please provide the information with a breakdown by age group of the licensees (aged under 35, aged 35-44, aged 45-54, aged 55-64, aged 65-74, aged 75 or above);
3. Is there any plan to re-issue itinerant hawker licences? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s). Will the Department conduct public consultation on hawker policy?
4. Will the Department identify suitable sites in new towns or new development areas (such as Sha Tin District, Tai Po District and Islands District where only a small number of hawkers are found) to set up on-street fixed pitches for licensed hawkers and issue new hawker licences?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 105)

Reply:

1. Information on the number and type of licensed itinerant hawkers in the territory is provided at Annex I.
2. Information on the age of licensed itinerant hawkers in the territory is provided at Annex II.
3. Itinerant hawkers usually operate at prime locations. They may impede pedestrian and/or vehicular flow with their trolleys and goods and bring about environmental

hygiene and general nuisance concerns. Hence, the Government maintains the existing policy of not issuing new itinerant hawker licences.

4. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's priority task is to expeditiously re-allocate vacant hawker pitches in existing fixed-pitch hawker areas so as to respond to the stakeholders' aspirations upon conclusion of the Hawker Assistance Scheme. We have no plans to set up new hawker areas at the moment.

- End -

Itinerant Hawker Licences (IHLs)
(Position as at 31.12.2018)

Type	Number of IHLs in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and Islands	Number of IHLs in New Territories	Total
Frozen Confectionary	34	30	64
Mobile Van	9	6	15
Newspaper	2	0	2
Other Classes	139	163	302
Total	184	199	383

**Age Distribution of Licensed Itinerant Hawkers
(Position as at 31.12.2018)**

	Age Distribution						Total
	Below 35	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 or above	
Number of Hawkers	1	8	19	35	126	194	383

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)204

(Question Serial No. 0924)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

There has been no import of live chickens from the Mainland into Hong Kong since early 2016. What are the implications on the staff establishment and expenditure of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is responsible for inspecting imported poultry at the Man Kam To Animal Inspection Station and carrying out routine Avian Influenza (AI) surveillance at the Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market (CSWTWPM). While the team has not been in full strength and there have been no imports of live poultry from the Mainland since February 2017, the remaining staff need to maintain the AI surveillance programme at CSWTWPM as well as discharging other duties such as border inspections on livestock and live aquatic products, radiation monitoring on food animal consignments, daily maintenance of the site, record keeping and other administration work, etc.

The actual expenditure involved in handling import of live poultry for AI surveillance was \$7.4 million in 2017-18. CFS's revised estimate in 2018-19 and the provision earmarked for 2019-20 for the same task are \$1.7 million and \$2.0 million respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)205

(Question Serial No. 0925)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Department will follow up on the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned to strengthen the functions of the Centre for Food Safety in food safety management and food import control. Please advise on the details of work, the indicators and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a task group, led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission and the Legislative Council Public Accounts Committee concerning the work of CFS in food safety management and import control. The task group has commenced comprehensive reviews on CFS' operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has started to roll out concrete and effective short, medium and long term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, and strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. In 2019-20, 35 additional civil service posts will be created in CFS along with an additional provision of \$25 million to implement the reviews and the enhancement measures.

In addition, CFS already put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)206

(Question Serial No. 1135)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to review and update local food safety standards, guidelines and regulatory arrangements. Please advise on:

1. the details of work, the indicators and the expenditure involved; and
2. whether the Department will consult relevant stakeholders of the food trade and make reference to the standards of other places.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department have been closely monitoring the international developments and measures relating to safeguarding food safety, including making reference to the food safety standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other economies, as well as taking into account the local dietary practice and risk assessment results, to timely update the local food safety standards and regulatory arrangements on the basis of scientific evidence. Upon completion of the legislative amendments to the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations last year, CFS has been working on proposals to update the regulatory regime of harmful substances in food, including mycotoxins and trans fat. FHB and CFS plan to conduct public consultation on the proposals in 2019-20.

As updating food safety standards and regulatory arrangements is part and parcel of the work of CFS, we do not have breakdown on the manpower and resources used specifically in this area of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)207

(Question Serial No. 1136)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations. Please provide in detail the proposed locations of the new public markets, the schedule, the staff establishment involved (please set out in tabular form the number of staff with a breakdown by post) and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 38)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build 2 new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre. The Government has also initially identified suitable sites in the east of the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) for public markets. Well-connected by public transport and close to future train stations and public transport interchanges, these new sites will be more accessible to the public. Apart from the above, we are also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North NDA to build new markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets which will give the public more choices in purchasing fresh food.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning of new markets. The estimated number of staff involved in 2019-20 is 37, including 4 Administrative Officer Grade posts, 13 Health Inspector Grade posts, 2 Executive Officer Grade posts, 3 Clerical Officer Grade posts, 2 Personal Secretary Grade posts and 13 contract staff. The estimated staff cost in 2019-20 is about \$33.9 million. Details of the new market projects would be available at a later stage when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)208

(Question Serial No. 1137)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue the comprehensive review on public markets. Please provide in detail the indicators of the work, the schedule, the staff establishment involved (please set out in tabular form the number of staff with a breakdown by post) and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 39)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) is conducting a comprehensive review of its existing public markets and will formulate specific improvement measures for both their facilities and management in a systematic manner.

In November 2018, we reported to the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene that the management reform of public markets would be conducted on the following principles –

- (a) public markets should principally be operating on a commercial basis allowing market forces to play in full swing;
- (b) individual stalls should be allowed to compete on a level-playing field; and
- (c) public markets as municipal infrastructure should ultimately serve the public interest benefitting the community at large.

We also set out our initial directions on the various aspects of the new operation mode, including rental policy, rental adjustment mechanism, cost recovery, tenancy renewal, trade mix and daily management. We are proceeding with the review and will come up with initial views on the management measures that would serve the best overall interest of the community. We will also look into ways to enhance the functions of the Market Management Consultative Committees.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the comprehensive review on public markets. The estimated number of staff involved in 2019-20 is 37, including 4 Administrative Officer Grade posts, 13 Health Inspector Grade posts, 2 Executive Officer Grade posts, 3 Clerical Officer Grade posts, 2 Personal Secretary Grade posts and 13 contract staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)209

(Question Serial No. 1138)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme. Please provide in detail the indicators of the work, the schedule, the staff establishment involved (please set out in tabular form the number of staff with a breakdown by post) and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for the Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. They include 4 Administrative Officer Grade posts, 13 Health Inspector Grade posts, 2 Executive Officer Grade posts, 3 Clerical Officer Grade posts, 2 Personal Secretary Grade posts and 13 contract staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)210

(Question Serial No. 2016)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will take action to close public markets which are under-utilised. Please advise on:

1. the criteria used to define “under-utilised” markets; and
2. the list of public markets which are intended to be closed, the schedule and staff establishment involved (please set out in tabular form the number of staff with a breakdown by post) and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

As promulgated in the 2018 Policy Address, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for meeting the policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

As a result of demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having very low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closure of such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful use to better serve the community. When considering whether an under-utilised market is to be closed, the Department will take into account a host of factors, including vacancy rate, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative sources of fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the likely cost-effectiveness of upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. The Department will consult the relevant District Council(s) and the market tenants to be affected on any market closure plans.

The Department is planning to close Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market and Tui Min Hoi Market in 2019-20. A dedicated team has been set up in the Department to take forward, among other things, the Market Modernisation Programme and other reviews, including closure of markets, with the support of 37 staff. They include 4 Administrative Officer Grade posts, 13 Health Inspector Grade posts, 2 Executive Officer Grade posts, 3 Clerical Officer Grade posts, 2 Personal Secretary Grade posts and 13 contract staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)211****(Question Serial No. 2797)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work of hawker control under Programme (3), will the Government provide further information on the following:

1. Please set out in the table below the number of unlicensed hawkers prosecuted in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by age group.

	Aged 18 or below	Aged 18 to 29	Aged 30 to 44	Aged 45 to 64	Aged 65 or above	Total
2014						
2015						
2016						
2017						
2018						

2. Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20, it is stated that the Department will issue new hawker licences for trading at suitable vacant fixed pitches. However, the indicator shows that the number of licensed hawkers slightly dropped in 2018, while the estimated number of licensed hawkers in 2019 are less than that in 2017. What are the reasons for the decrease?
3. What is the effectiveness of the Assistance Scheme for Hawkers in Fixed-pitch Hawker Areas that ended last year? Does the Department have any plans to launch similar assistance scheme?
4. Will the Department increase the number of fixed-pitch hawker areas to protect the livelihood of hawkers?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

1. Information on the number of prosecutions against unlicensed hawkers in the past 5 years is provided at Annex. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep statistics on the age of the prosecuted unlicensed hawkers.
2. The decrease in the number of licensed hawkers is attributed to natural attrition and voluntary surrender of fixed-pitch hawker licences for ex-gratia payment (EGP) under the Hawker Assistance Scheme (HAS). We expect the number to go up in 2020 when vacated fixed pitches are to be allocated to eligible persons. We are now consulting relevant District Councils and expect to invite applications for the licences later this year.
3. The HAS ended in June 2018. Among the 4 329 licensed fixed-pitch hawkers eligible for the HAS, the Department received applications from 854 of them for EGP on surrender of their licences. The approval procedures for EGP applications were completed and the pitches concerned were vacated. Besides, the Department received 422 applications for relocation cum reconstruction grant and 3 002 applications for in-situ reconstruction grant. In other words, 98.8% of the eligible licensed hawkers joined the HAS.

With the conclusion of the HAS, the fire risks posed by on-street hawking activities is significantly reduced. Moreover, we have brought about a face-lift to the hawker areas, rationalised the overall layout of these areas and enhanced the electrical safety therein. We have no plans to re-launch the HAS in the near future.

4. The Department's priority task is to expeditiously re-allocate vacant hawker pitches in existing fixed-pitch areas so as to respond to the stakeholders' expectations. We have no plans to set up new hawker areas at the moment either.

- End -

Number of prosecutions against unlicensed hawkers

Calendar year	Number of prosecutions
2014	26 025
2015	23 054
2016	15 310
2017	6 402
2018	5 564

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)212

(Question Serial No. 0585)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

For the work of “providing efficient and effective public cleansing services, including street cleansing and household waste collection, and management of public cleansing facilities such as public toilets and refuse collection points” in 2018-19, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) As mentioned in the Policy Address in 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will strive to improve the existing surveillance system for mosquitoes and rodents by application of technologies. What are the manpower involved, the estimated expenditure and the specific work plan?
- (2) On the anti-rodent front, as mentioned in the Police Address in 2018, the Government will keep enhancing its efforts in rodent control throughout the territory. Inter-departmental co-ordination will be strengthened to carry out targeted rodent control operations in rodent-infested areas. In view of the effectiveness of its anti-rodent operations at designated target areas, the Department will continue to adopt this approach in various districts and provide technical support to relevant departments. What are the manpower involved in the above work, the estimated expenditure and the details of the work plan?

Asked by: Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

- (1) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) adopts a multi-pronged approach to enhance mosquito and rodent control services including the application of technologies as well as providing better municipal services. There are about 70 departmental staff responsible for general surveillance work at present. In 2019-20, 2 additional positions will be deployed to conduct testing of technologies in enhancing surveillance of mosquitoes and rodents. The estimated expenditure is \$1.64 million. The details of application of technologies in enhancing surveillance of mosquitoes and rodents are set out at Annex.

- (2) To intensify district rodent prevention and control work, the Department will launch 2 two months long anti-rodent operations in designated target areas in all districts in May and November 2019, and adopt multi-pronged strategies to combat the rodent problem, including elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents, as well as blocking their passages. The Department will also step up public education and publicity during the operation, and arrange health talks for building management of private buildings, persons-in-charge of food premises, and market and hawker stall operators.

The estimated expenditure in 2019-20 on rodent prevention and control is \$213.5 million and 700 departmental staff and 1 800 contractors' staff will be deployed to provide pest control and prevention services. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure and manpower related to the anti-rodent operation in designated target areas.

- End -

**Application of Technologies in
Enhancing Surveillance of Mosquitoes and Rodents**

(a) Gravitraps

A gravitraps includes a sticky trap to collect adult mosquitoes that can provide quantitative results by counting the actual number of mosquitoes collected. The Department will conduct field trial of gravitraps in the third quarter of 2019.

(b) Night-vision cameras

Night vision cameras with artificial intelligence (AI) function are used to analyse the extent and severity of the rodent problem so as to formulate more targeted rodent control measures. Trial has commenced in March 2019.

(c) Thermal imaging cameras

Thermal imaging cameras with AI function can identify rodents' movements and facilitate rodent surveillance. Trial has commenced in March 2019.

(d) Real-time dengue vector surveillance

The Department is developing an imaging system with AI function for recognising adult Aedes mosquitoes laying eggs in ovitraps. Trial will be conducted in December 2019.

(e) Nara Bloc and Spray

Nara Bloc is a new product that contains non-poisonous bait claimed to have better attractiveness to rodents. Nara Spray may be applied to rodenticides and rodent traps to increase their attractiveness to rodents in order to achieve better poisoning and trapping effects. Trial is being conducted and will be completed by December 2019.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)213

(Question Serial No. 0588)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

On rolling out the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases in 2019-20, please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the manpower involved, the estimated expenditure and the work items in each phase;
- (2) the expected items and schedule of enhancement; and
- (3) the details of the existing repair and maintenance works as well as the maintenance works in 2019-20, given that repair and maintenance works are equally important as compared to enhancement measures.

Asked by: Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

1. About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. 26 additional staff will be deployed to implement the refurbishment programme, incurring an estimated annual expenditure of about \$19.8 million.
2. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

3. FEHD's staff inspect daily the hygiene, cleanliness and other conditions of public toilets. In respect of minor defects or damage, the cleansing contractors will carry out minor repairs or replacement within 24 hours. For more serious cases, FEHD's staff will notify the Architectural Services Department or the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department for arranging repairs as soon as possible.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)214

(Question Serial No. 0301)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the proposal in this year's Budget that a total expenditure of over \$600 million be spent on refurbishing over 240 public toilets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the coming 5 years, please advise on:

1. the list of the public toilets concerned, the expected timetable for refurbishment works and the estimated annual expenditure;
2. whether the Government will, apart from general refurbishment and retrofitting of facilities, consider demolishing some dilapidated and poorly designed public toilets for redevelopment;
3. whether separate tenders will be invited for the refurbishment/redevelopment works; and
4. whether the Government will consider organising open design competitions for the refurbishment/redevelopment of some suitable public toilets, e.g. public toilets in tourist districts and those of particularly heavy usage, so as to tap on the creativity of the relevant professionals and beautify the community?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

1. About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.

2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) will not rule out the possibility of demolishing a public toilet and building a new one if the conditions of the toilet and circumstances warrant.
3. The detailed works and procurement arrangements will be worked out when the scope of works and detailed design of the public toilets involved in the refurbishment programme are finalised.
4. FEHD will actively consider in consultation with the Architectural Services Department how to engage the community in providing a creative outlook for suitable public toilets, especially those highly utilised ones in tourist areas.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)215

(Question Serial No. 1631)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated in Programme (2) that support will be given to the Private Columbaria Licensing Board in processing applications for a licence or other specified instruments for operating a private columbarium. Since the implementation of the Private Columbaria Ordinance in 2017, only one application has been approved. Please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) What are the staff establishment and expenditure of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office? Is there any assessment of whether the existing manpower can cope with the anticipated workload? In 2019-20, what are the manpower and expenditure earmarked for supporting the work of the Licensing Board?
- (2) As at March 2019, how many applications for a licence in respect of private columbaria have been received? What is the progress of the vetting of the licence applications? What is the estimated time required for completing the vetting work for all applications?
- (3) In light of the strong public demand for niches provided by private columbaria, will the vetting process be expedited to clear the huge backlog of licence applications?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 29)

Reply:

- (1) When the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) (the Ordinance) came into effect on 30 June 2017, the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) had about 50 staff members. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) keeps in view the manpower requirement of the PCAO and has provided it with additional manpower resources to cope with its workload. The PCAO will have about 60 staff members in 2019-20 and the estimated expenditure is \$76.2 million.

(2&3) From the commencement of the Ordinance to 18 March 2019, the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (the Licensing Board) had received a total of 360 applications for specified instruments from 145 private columbaria. A number of columbaria have withdrawn their applications. The Licensing Board approved 2 licence applications in January and March 2019. In addition, the Licensing Board agreed in principle in February 2019 that another application basically met the requirements for a licence (except for the land-related ones), and will make its final decision after the applicant has complied with the land-related requirements.

As at 18 March 2019, the Licensing Board was processing 333 applications for specified instruments submitted by 136 private columbaria, 106 of which submitted applications for a licence.

While the Licensing Board has been striving to process the applications for specified instruments as quickly as possible, the progress depends to a large extent on whether the applicants had complied with the requirements stipulated in the Ordinance and those specified by the Licensing Board at the time when they submitted the applications, and whether all the required documents and information have been furnished. At present, most columbaria have yet been able to submit all the required supporting documents and information. The PCAO and/or relevant departments have to ask quite a number of them to provide clarifications or supplementary information. The PCAO will continue to maintain close liaison with the relevant departments and the applicants in order to complete the vetting work and submit the applications to the Licensing Board for decision as soon as possible.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)216

(Question Serial No. 1632)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Mosquito and rodent problems are serious in Hong Kong. District councillors in some areas in East Kowloon have filed complaints about the Department's inadequate efforts to tackle the rodent and mosquito problems. Several members of the Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin District Councils, who are members of the district organisation "Positive Synergy", and I have especially held a meeting with Dr CHUI Tak-yi, the Under Secretary for Food and Health, to reflect our views. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the number of meetings held so far by the inter-departmental Pest Control Steering Committee led by the Secretary for Food and Health, and the details of the new anti-rodent and anti-mosquito measures or proposals that have been formulated;
- (2) the effectiveness of the new rodent control devices (such as guns and infrared devices for killing rodents) employed by the Department on a trial basis. Will the use of these devices be extended to all districts in Hong Kong as soon as possible? If yes, the details and the expenditure involved; and
- (3) the details of the measures to be implemented in 2019-20 to enhance pest control services, as well as the additional manpower and estimated expenditure required for these enhanced services.

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

- (1) The Pest Control Steering Committee (PCSC) was upgraded from the Anti-mosquito Steering Committee in July 2018 and chaired by the Under Secretary for Food and Health. 3 regular meetings and 2 ad-hoc meetings in response to local dengue fever cases have been held since the PCSC's establishment. The PCSC has mapped out the focus of pest control work for members in 2019 with objectives in 3 areas, namely strengthening prevention, coordination and surveillance. For 2019, Members have

commenced mosquito prevention measures before the rainy season and will conduct fogging operations once the rainy season arrives. The PCSC provides a platform for members to grasp the latest situation of pest problems, report on their progress, work plan and difficulties encountered as well as to enhance co-ordination and effectiveness of such work, including promoting joint pest control operations (e.g. the anti-rodent operation at designated target areas), sharing best practices and strengthening contract management.

- (2) Since November 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been carrying out field trials on an automatic rodent trapping device using compressed carbon dioxide gas to drive a striker for killing rodents that touch the trigger when trying to access the lure set inside the device. 15 traps, at a total cost of around \$60,000, were procured for the trials at different settings inside market complex in order to test its attractiveness and effectiveness in controlling rodents as well as comparing its effectiveness with traditional wire cage traps. The trials will be completed by April 2019 tentatively.
- (3) Pest control work, such as the control of mosquito, rodent and other disease vectors, is carried out by the Department. The Department carries out a series of operations including removal of water accumulation, as well as mosquito prevention and control work at potential breeding places over the territory. Emphasis will be placed on locations in close proximity to human residences, schools, construction sites, public housing estates, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo working areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters and cross boundary ferry terminals. The Department adopts multi-pronged strategies for rodent disinfection in designated target areas through elimination of the survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, by improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfection and enforcement actions. Emphasis will be placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other problematic spots as well as their surroundings. For effective control of other disease vectors, the prevention and control measures will be targeted at sites where the pest frequents.

The Department carries out vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation surveys, rat-flea surveys and ad hoc surveys on other insect pests. In response to vector-borne diseases, the Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients. The Department will continue to step up public education and publicity as well as provide support and technical advice to other departments on mosquito and rodent prevention and control. It also provides training to staff of other departments to enhance their knowledge and skills in pest control.

The Department has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of pest control services. Dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory.

The estimated expenditure on pest control services for 2019-20 is \$681 million. About 700 departmental staff and 1 800 contractors' staff are deployed to pest control services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)217

(Question Serial No. 0859)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. It is mentioned in Programme (3) that the Department will provide or plan new public market facilities at suitable locations. Apart from Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung, has the Department identified other suitable locations for provision or planning of such facilities? If yes, please provide the name of the suitable locations.
2. Given that the Department will revitalise public markets as appropriate, please advise on the name of the markets to be revitalised in 2019-20 and the estimated expenditure involved.
3. Please list the names of the public markets to be closed in 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

1. As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build 2 new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre. The Government has also initially identified suitable sites in the east of the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) for public markets. Well-connected by public transport and close to future train stations and public transport interchanges, these new sites will be more accessible to the public. Apart from the above, we are also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North NDA to build new markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets which will give the public more choices in purchasing fresh food.

2. Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and

refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of Aberdeen Market MMP project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

3. As a result of demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having very low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closure of such markets will release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. In 2019-20, we are planning to close Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market and Tui Min Hoi Market.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)218

(Question Serial No. 2723)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 13 under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20 that the Department will continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) to improve the existing facilities. Given that Aberdeen Market will be the pioneering project of the MMP, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. Is the work of soliciting views of stall operators progressing well? Will it be possible to complete the local consultation exercise according to the time table provided last year, that is, within the current term of District Councils?
2. Under the latest compensation proposal, what is the estimated maximum amount of compensation offered to the stall operators? Will the amount become the benchmark for similar programmes in future?
3. There are quite a number of stall operators who are still undecided whether to leave the market or not because they wish to receive a greater amount of compensation, while residents in the Southern District hope that the overhaul works will be started soon to improve the market environment. Will the Department provide other incentives to encourage stall operators to make an early decision, so that members of the public can enjoy the convenience of the new market as soon as possible?

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

The overhaul of Aberdeen Market is the pioneering project under the Market Modernisation Programme. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been actively liaising with the market tenants and other relevant stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward (including any concessionary arrangements) as soon as possible. While discussion with the tenants is underway, we are not able to provide further details at this stage.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)219****(Question Serial No. 1009)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (4) Public Education and Community InvolvementControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the stepping up of promotion of green burial,

1. please advise on the details of the "central registration scheme", the estimated expenditure involved and the number of registrations made since the setting up of the Central Register;
2. please set out as per the table below the number of cases handled by the Department and the expenditure involved in the past 5 years (i.e. from 2014 to 2018); and

Year		Number of Deaths	Burial	Cremation	Interment of cremated ashes in public niches	Scattering of cremated ashes in the designated areas in Hong Kong waters	Scattering of cremated ashes in Gardens of Remembrance
2014	Number of cases						
	Expenditure involved						
2015	Number of cases						
	Expenditure involved						

2016	Number of cases						
	Expenditure involved						
2017	Number of cases						
	Expenditure involved						
2018	Number of cases						
	Expenditure involved						

3. please advise on the number of users and the utilisation rate of the ferry service provided by the Department for scattering cremated ashes at sea, as well as the expenditure involved in each of the past 5 years (i.e. from 2014 to 2018).

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been promoting green burial through different channels, including Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, promotion videos, posters and banners, a mobile application, a dedicated website, collaboration with non-government organisations and promotional activities at senior exhibitions, etc. We launched a Green Burial Central Register (GBCR) in January 2019 to encourage the public to register their wish for green burial. The registration, free of charge, can be made online, by post, fax or email.

The expenditure involved in setting up the GBCR was about \$0.9 million with an estimated system maintenance cost at about \$50,000 per annum. Up to end March 2019, over 1000 individuals have registered in the GBCR.

2. The number of cases handled by the Department in the past 5 calendar years is given as follows -

Year	No. of deaths	No. of coffin burials	No. of cremations	No. of ashes interment in public niches	No. of cases of scattering of ashes	
					At sea	In Gardens of Remembrance
2014	45 710	1 056	41 244	15 504	856	2 697
2015	46 757	1 009	42 737	18 613	877	3 196
2016	46 662	916	43 556	8 630	900	4 004
2017	45 883	919	42 809	2 935	966	4 966
2018	47 479	919	43 803	3 657	972	5 352

The expenditure incurred by the Department in providing cemeteries and crematoria services in 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was \$341.4 million, \$327.4 million, \$332.5 million, \$345.6 million and \$356.9 million (revised estimate) respectively. There is no breakdown by type of services.

3. The number of users and the utilisation rate of the free ferry service provided by the Department for scattering cremated ashes at sea in the past 5 calendar years is given as follows -

Year	Number of applications handled	Service capacity	Utilisation rate
2014	790	900	88%
2015	817	950	86%
2016	850	1 175	72%
2017	906	1 175	77%
2018	878	1 225	72%

The expenditure incurred by the Department for contracting out the free ferry service in 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was \$2.0 million, \$2.1 million, \$2.3 million, \$2.3 million and \$2.4 million (revised estimate) respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)220****(Question Serial No. 1010)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to the aim “to facilitate agricultural and fisheries production and improve productivity”, please advise on the respective share of food supplied locally and imported into Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2016, 2017 and 2018) as per the table below:

	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported (%)		
		Country A	Country B	Country C
Rice				
Vegetables				
Live cattle				
Live goats				
Live pigs				
Live chickens				
Other live poultry				
Live fish				
Chilled or frozen beef				
Chilled or frozen mutton				
Chilled or frozen pork				
Chilled or frozen chicken				
Chilled or frozen poultry				
Chilled or frozen fish				

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

The respective shares of food supplied locally and imported into Hong Kong in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively are as follows –

(a) 2016

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Rice	-	Thailand 59.6	Vietnam 26.3	Mainland 5.6
Vegetables	1.7	Mainland 92.5	USA 2.2	Australia 1.7
Live cattle	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live goats	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live pigs	5.8	Mainland 94.2	-	-
Live chickens	99.2	Mainland 0.8	-	-
Other live poultry	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live fish	8.6	Mainland 74.2	Malaysia 3.8	Philippines 3.6
Chilled beef	-	Australia 46.2	USA 29.1	Brazil 9.6
Frozen beef	-	Brazil 55.5	USA 27.5	Canada 6.1
Chilled mutton	-	Australia 61.9	New Zealand 30.0	UK 5.5
Frozen mutton	-	New Zealand 40.5	Mainland 29.4	Australia 20.8
Chilled pork	-	Mainland 76.5	Brazil 11.3	USA 4.1
Frozen pork	-	Brazil 36.8	USA 15.9	Mainland 10.5
Chilled chicken	-	Mainland 99.7	Australia 0.2	France 0.1
Frozen chicken	-	USA 39.8	Brazil 35.7	Mainland 8.8
Chilled poultry	-	Mainland 99.0	Thailand 0.7	Australia 0.2

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Frozen poultry	-	USA 38.0	Brazil 36.8	Mainland 8.2
Chilled and Frozen Fish	22.9	Mainland 31.7	Vietnam 12.8	Norway 11.5

(b) 2017

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Rice	-	Thailand 64.8	Vietnam 15.3	USA 5.4
Vegetables	1.7	Mainland 92.6	USA 2.1	Australia 1.3
Live cattle	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live goats	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live pigs	6.7	Mainland 93.3	-	-
Live chickens	100	-	-	-
Other live poultry	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live fish	7.8	Mainland 82.9	Philippines 4.0	Taiwan 3.7
Chilled beef	-	Australia 47.8	USA 27.8	Japan 6.9
Frozen beef	-	Brazil 56.1	USA 24.8	Canada 4.4
Chilled mutton	-	Australia 60.5	New Zealand 27.8	UK 10.0
Frozen mutton	-	Australia 38.3	New Zealand 23.6	Mainland 14.9
Chilled pork	-	Mainland 62.1	Brazil 26.6	Australia 3.2
Frozen pork	-	Brazil 28.1	USA 17.2	Mainland 12.3
Chilled chicken	-	Mainland 99.6	Australia 0.29	France 0.13
Frozen chicken	-	USA 41.5	Brazil 34.7	Mainland 8.8
Chilled poultry	-	Mainland 98.7	Thailand 0.9	Australia 0.3

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Frozen poultry	-	USA 40.0	Brazil 35.5	Mainland 8.7
Chilled and Frozen Fish	34.3	Mainland 48.6	Vietnam 15.0	Norway 12.5

(c) 2018

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Rice	-	Thailand 55.9	Vietnam 23.3	Mainland 7.1
Vegetables	1.8	Mainland 92.5	USA 2.0	Australia 1.4
Live cattle	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live goats	-	Mainland 100	-	-
Live pigs	6.7	Mainland 93.3	-	-
Live chickens	100	-	-	-
Other live poultry	-	-	-	-
Live fish	8.0	Mainland 82.9	Taiwan 4.5	Philippines 3.8
Chilled beef	-	Australia 41.3	USA 30.0	Brazil 15.0
Frozen beef	-	Brazil 63.6	USA 21.7	Canada 3.7
Chilled mutton	-	Australia 49.2	New Zealand 32.9	UK 9.6
Frozen mutton	-	Australia 35.9	New Zealand 23.6	Mainland 14.3
Chilled pork	-	Mainland 55.3	Brazil 31.8	Canada 3.7
Frozen pork	-	Brazil 45.2	Mainland 13.8	USA 12.4
Chilled chicken	-	Mainland 99.6	Australia 0.21	France 0.08
Frozen chicken	-	USA 42.8	Brazil 32.8	Mainland 9.1
Chilled poultry	-	Mainland 98.4	Thailand 1.1	Australia 0.3

Food item	Share of food supplied locally (%)	Share of food imported by top three economies (%)		
Frozen poultry	-	USA 41.2	Brazil 33.5	Mainland 9.0
Chilled and Frozen Fish	30.3	Mainland 48.7	Vietnam 15.3	Norway 11.9

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)221

(Question Serial No. 1011)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the issue of licences for food premises, please set out in the following table (with a breakdown by the type of licence) the number of applications received, the total number of licences issued, the average time taken for processing an application and the expenditure involved in the past 3 years (i.e. 2016- 2018):

Type of licence		Number of applications	Number of licences issued	Average time taken for processing an application	Expenditure involved
Restaurant Licences	General Restaurant Licence				
	Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence				
Bakery Licence					
Cold Store Licence					
Factory Canteen Licence					
Food Factory Licence					
Temporary Food Factory Licence					
Fresh Provision Shop Licence					
Frozen Confection Factory Licence					
Milk Factory Licence					
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence					
Composite Food Shop Licence					

Restricted Food Permit					
Karaoke Establishment Permit					
Other Trade Licences	Commercial Bathhouse Licence				
	Funeral Parlour Licence				
	Offensive Trade Licence				
	Swimming Pool Licence				
	Undertaker's Licence				
Places of Public Entertainment Licence					
Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence					
Liquor Licence					
Club Liquor Licence					

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 49)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

Type of licence		Year	Number of applications	Number of licences issued (Note 1)	Average time taken for processing an application (working days) (Note 2)	Expenditure involved
Restaurant Licences	General Restaurant Licence	2016	1 367	1 098	175	There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure incurred.
		2017	1 450	1 048	170	
		2018	1 283	1 195	170	
	Light Refreshment Restaurant Licence	2016	572	390	164	
		2017	607	400	178	
		2018	566	456	170	
Bakery Licence		2016	28	20	158	
		2017	39	20	153	
		2018	48	29	166	
Cold Store Licence		2016	14	6	192	
		2017	16	6	123	
		2018	8	5	118	
Factory Canteen Licence		2016	69	11	230	
		2017	60	23	195	
		2018	37	20	247	

Food Factory Licence		2016	1 554	891	152	Expenditure involved
		2017	1 598	1 036	163	
		2018	1 809	1 135	158	
Type of licence	Year	Number of applications	Number of licences issued (Note 1)	Average time taken for processing an application (working days) (Note 2)		
Temporary Food Factory Licence		2016	1 925	2 998	24	
		2017	2 343	1 624	23	
		2018	2 689	2 183	22	
Fresh Provision Shop Licence		2016	393	234	133	
		2017	423	277	139	
		2018	553	297	160	
Frozen Confection Factory Licence		2016	58	58	154	
		2017	80	55	146	
		2018	122	64	142	
Milk Factory Licence		2016	0	0	0	
		2017	0	0	0	
		2018	1	0	0	
Siu Mei and Lo Mei Shop Licence		2016	76	32	123	
		2017	70	58	152	
		2018	71	53	175	
Composite Food Shop Licence		2016	0	1	185	
		2017	2	2	231	
		2018	0	0	0	
Restricted Food Permit		2016	1 190	909	56	
		2017	1 356	1 015	52	
		2018	1 574	1 145	49	
Karaoke Establishment Permit		2016	18	3	255	
		2017	9	4	281	
		2018	12	3	249	
Other Trade Licences	Commercial Bathhouse Licence	2016	2	2	206	
		2017	4	1	171	
		2018	1	0	0	
	Funeral Parlour Licence	2016	5*	0	N.A.	
		2017	0	0	0	
		2018	0	0	0	
	Offensive Trade Licence	2016	4*	0	N.A.	
		2017	1*	0	N.A.	
		2018	0	0	0	
	Swimming Pool Licence	2016	58	31	210	
		2017	48	44	133	
		2018	43	37	196	
Undertaker's Licence	2016	13	8	102		
	2017	12	4	151		
	2018	13	5	118		
Places of Public Entertainment Licence		2016	19	12	99	
		2017	63	12	113	
		2018	126	27	138	
Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence		2016	1 782	1 532	37	
		2017	2 212	1 914	38	

	2018	2 468	2 137	38	
Liquor Licence	2016	1 016	1 047	41	
	2017	1 159	1 199	36	
	2018	1 116	1 170	34	
Type of licence	Year	Number of applications	Number of licences issued (Note 1)	Average time taken for processing an application (working days) (Note 2)	Expenditure involved
Club Liquor Licence	2016	16	8	43	
	2017	22	20	34	
	2018	15	19	34	

* Applications required no further processing due to withdrawal by the applicants or other factors.

Note 1: Applications for licence received in a year may be carried forward with the processing completed in the subsequent year.

Note 2: It refers to the average time from receipt of an application to issue of a full licence. The processing time for an application is contingent upon the time spent by the applicant in complying with the relevant licensing requirements; settling objections raised by the public or other departments concerned; and addressing relevant land issues, if any. It varies from case to case.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)222

(Question Serial No. 1012)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated that the Department will “continue to implement the Private Columbaria Ordinance”. Since there is a “vacuum period” between the commencement of the Ordinance and the issue of licences, during which operators of private columbaria are not allowed to inter “new ashes” in their niches, there may be demand from members of the public for temporary storage facilities for cremains provided by the Department. In this connection, please advise on the location of the existing temporary storage facilities provided by the Department, their service capacity and utilisation rate, as well as the number of applications received and the number of applications on the waiting list for these facilities (with a breakdown by location).

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) at present has a total of some 35 000 temporary storage spaces for cremains at the Kwai Chung Crematorium, Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phases III and V, and the vacant staff quarters at Cape Collision Crematorium and Hong Kong Cemetery. Those at the Kwai Chung Crematorium and Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase III have been open for use. The information sought in respect of these two facilities is provided as follows –

	Kwai Chung Crematorium (For storage of cremains bags)	Wo Hop Shek Columbarium Phase III (For storage of cinerary urns)
Capacity for temporary storage of cremains	10 080 spaces	5 040 spaces
No. of space occupied as at 28.2.2019	1 126	2 471
Usage rate	11.2%	49.0%

In addition, some 41 000 temporary storage spaces will be made available in the coming 2 years. The Department will keep the usage of temporary storage facilities under review.

All applications for temporary ash storage services have been entertained. No applications have to be waitlisted.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)223

(Question Serial No. 1934)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. It is mentioned in the Estimates that the Department will follow up proactively on the recommendations in the Audit Reports released in November 2018 and the Public Accounts Committee reports concerned. Which recommendations will be followed up on proactively? When will the follow-up work be reviewed? What are the assessment criteria will be adopted to ensure the effectiveness of the follow-up actions?
2. It is stated in the Estimates that the Department will continue to re-engineer workflow for the Centre for Food Safety. Please provide the details.

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a task group, led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission and the Legislative Council Public Accounts Committee concerning the work of CFS in food safety management and import control. The task group has commenced comprehensive reviews on CFS' operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has started to roll out concrete and effective short, medium and long term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, and strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. In 2019-20, 35 additional civil service posts will be created in CFS along with an additional provision of \$25 million to implement the reviews and the enhancement measures.

In addition, CFS already put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and

reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019. Specifically, a Food Trader Portal will be set up to provide a platform for electronic communication between CFS and food traders. The existing Food Import Control System will be replaced by a new IT system which will support the streamlined workflow and procedures on import control and the issuance of food export certification. There will be a newly developed Food Incident Management System to strengthen the management of food safety incidents. The above systems will interface with each other to provide a well-connected network of information in support of risk profiling and risk-based inspection to enhance food safety control.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)224

(Question Serial No. 1935)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. What is the estimated expenditure of the Private Columbaria Licensing Board in 2019-20? Please also advise on the staff establishment for the provision of administrative support.
2. What is the estimated number of licence applications to be processed by the Private Columbaria Licensing Board in 2019-20?
3. Are there any private columbaria which have been granted a licence? If yes, please give the name(s) of the private columbarium/columbaria concerned.

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

1. The expenditure of the Private Columbaria Licensing Board (the Licensing Board) and the manpower for providing the executive support are included in the estimated expenditure of the Private Columbaria Affairs Office (PCAO) under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. In 2019-20, the PCAO will have about 60 staff members and the estimated expenditure is \$76.2 million.
2. As at 18 March 2019, the Licensing Board was processing 333 applications for specified instruments submitted by 136 private columbaria, 106 of which submitted applications for a licence. The Licensing Board will continue to process these applications in 2019- 20 as quickly as possible. Nevertheless, the progress depends to a large extent on whether the applicants had complied with the requirements stipulated in the Private Columbaria Ordinance (Cap. 630) and those specified by the Licensing Board at the time when they submitted the applications, and whether all the required documents and information have been furnished. At present, most columbaria have yet been able to submit all the required supporting documents and information. The PCAO and/or relevant departments have to ask quite a number of them to provide clarifications or supplementary information. The PCAO will continue to maintain close liaison with the relevant departments and the applicants in

order to complete the vetting work and submit the applications to the Licensing Board for decision as soon as possible.

3. Applications for a licence submitted in respect of private columbaria “Filial Park” and “Pu Tong Ta, Chi Lin Nunnery” were approved in January and March 2019 respectively. The Licensing Board also agreed in principle in February 2019 that the licence application submitted by private columbarium “Shan Yuan” basically met the application requirements for a licence (except for the land-related ones), and will make its final decision after the applicant has complied with the land-related requirements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)225

(Question Serial No. 1936)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please set out the specific locations of environmental hygiene blackspots in 2018-2020.
2. What are the criteria for determining that the above blackspots have been “cleaned up”?
3. Which blackspots have not been removed from the list over the past 3 years? What is/are the reason(s)? How will the Department deal with persistent blackspots?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) receives environmental hygiene complaints from members of the public through multiple channels, including reports pinpointing locations with unsatisfactory hygiene conditions. The Department will conduct investigation and take measures to abate the nuisance. Depending on the circumstances prevailing at individual locations, the Department will adjust the frequency of street cleansing and pest control operations and step up enforcement action as appropriate. There is no hard and fast definition of what a hygienic “black spot” is; the term is used to refer to an area where the cleanliness problem remains obstinate despite enhanced cleansing.

A list of the top 5 locations in each of the 19 districts, as at March 2019, to which the Department devotes more efforts and resources in tackling the problem of illegal dumping of refuse, including the blackspots that were not removed from the list over the past 3 years, is set out at Annex.

Since June 2018, the Department has installed Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at 115 illegal refuse deposit blackspots over the territory to curb such activities. Up to end January 2019, a total of 120 summons cases had been laid against owners of vehicles used for illegal

dumping of refuse based on the footage captured, of which 76 cases were convicted. The Department plans to extend the scheme for 2 years and will consult District Councils (DCs) to draw up a prioritised site list for each district for installation of IP cameras. It will progressively increase the number of locations for installation of IP cameras to over 300 with consideration given to the locations proposed by DCs.

To combat illegal deposit of refuse, apart from installation of IP cameras, the Department has set up dedicated enforcement teams (DETs) since mid-2017, primarily to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences. There are now 19 DETs. The Department will set up additional DETs in 2019-20 to strengthen law enforcement and public education on maintaining street cleanliness and proper disposal of refuse. In addition, the Department has, with the consent of respective DCs, extended the opening hours of some refuse collection points to meet the demand for service at midnight or in the early morning. This arrangement has brought about noticeable improvements to street cleanliness.

- End -

Top 5 Locations of Illegal Dumping of Refuse (as at March 2019)

District	Location
Central and Western	Li Yuen Street East*
	Li Yuen Street West
	Elgin Street
	Staunton Street*
	Davis Street Near Hau Wo Street
Wan Chai	Outside Temporary Refuse Collection Point at Mount Butler Road
	No. 348 Hennessy Road
	No. 2 O'brien Road
	Rear Lane of On On Building at Nos. 123-125 Lockhart Road
	Junction of Cannon Street and Jaffe Road*
Eastern	Junction of Shing On Street and No.118 Shau Kei Wan Road
	Nos. 382-386 Shau Kei Wan Road, Shau Kei Wan
	No. 373 Shau Kei Wan Road, Shau Kei Wan
	Outside Nam On Street Public Toilet
	Outside A Kung Ngam Village Road Refuse Collection Point
Southern	Outside Lee Nam Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Temporary Refuse Collection Point opposite to Pokfulam Village
	Junction of Hing Wo Street and Ka Wo Street outside Tin Wan Market
	Aberdeen Old Main Street
	Outside Chuk Hom Kok Temporary Refuse Collection Point
Islands	Outside Silver View Centre, Ngan Kwong Wan Road, Mui Wo
	Outside Mui Wo Pier Car Park, Mui Wo
	Tung Chung Road North near Lamppost FB8749 and FB8750
	Bin Site next to 44 Wang Long, Yung Shue Wan, Lamma Island
	Bin Site next to Lamppost BC0507, Chi Ma Wan Road, South Lantau
Yau Tsim	Star Ferry Pier, Tsim Sha Tsui
	Junction of Battery Street and Saigon Street
	Junction of Parkes Street and Bowring Street
	Junction of Dundas Street and Waterloo Road (outside Kwong Wah Hospital)
	Rear lane of Nos. 2-40 Portland Street
Mong Kok	Outside Skyway House, No. 3 Sham Mong Road
	Pavement of Larch Street

District	Location
	Junction of Poplar Street and Tai Nan Street (Outside Poplar Street Substation)
	Junction of Ferry Street and Shan Tung Street
	Junction of Ferry Street and Nelson Street (Outside Shun King Building)
Sham Shui Po	Junction of Ki Lung Street and Pei Ho Street
	Junction of Tai Nan Street and Pei Ho Street
	Pavement outside Fuk Wing Street Rest Garden
	Kim Sin Lane
	Junction of Kweilin Street and Lai Chi Kok Road
Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue North (near Gillies Avenue Post Office)
	Junction of Ma Tau Wai Road and Hok Yuen Street (near Hung Hom Square)
	Roundabout of Wan On Street
	No. 99 Dock Street
	Junction of York Road and To Fuk Road
Wong Tai Sin	Junction between Sam Chuk Street and Tsat Po Street, San Po Kong
	Kam Fung Street
	Yan Oi Street (near Lamp post no. AA7256)
	Rear lane of Nos. 19-33 Hong Keung Street
	Outside Hsin Kuang Centre at Ying Fung Lane
Kwun Tong	Lam Tin Estate near entrance of Saint Edward's Mass Centre (Lin Tak Road)
	Lam Tin MTR Station Exit A near Bank of China
	Under Footbridge at New Clear Water Bay Road near Ngau Chi Wan Substation.
	Pavement at Choi Ha Road, opposite to Jordan Valley Swimming Pool
	Outside Choi Shek Lane Refuse Collection Point
Kwai Tsing	Outside Tai Chuen Ping Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tam Kon Shan Road Refuse Collection Point
	Lam Tin Street
	Kwong Fai Circuit
	Shek Man Path
Tsuen Wan	Outside Luen Yan Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Wo Yi Hop Village Refuse Collection Point
	Yi Pei Square
	Hau Tei Square
	Tai Pei Square
Tuen Mun	Outside Tsing Yeung Circuit Refuse Collection Point

District	Location
	Outside San Hing Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Ho Fat Lane
	Tat Fuk Road near lamppost nos. BD2940 and BD2938
	Tin Tei Yan Road (near Tin Tei Yan Road Public Toilet)
Yuen Long	Outside Ka Lung Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Tao Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Shan Pui Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Long Ha Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tung Tai Wai San Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
North	Ho Sheung Heung Pai Fung Road near lamppost no. V5223
	Outside Kam Tsin (Fung Shui Grave) Refuse Collection Point
	Yip Fung Street Car Park, Fanling
	Bin Site near Lamppost no. EB5319 at Ping Yeung Village, Ta Ku Ling
	Outside Queen's Hill Refuse Collection Point
Tai Po	Outside Nam Hang Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Po Lookout Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Wong Yue Tan Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Pan Chung Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Shek Kwu Lung Village Refuse Collection Point
Sha Tin	Outside Siu Lek Yuen Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Sha Tin Wai Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside San Tin Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Fo Tan Village Refuse Collection Point
	Car Park near 8623 Tai Po Road – Sha Tin Heights
Sai Kung	Tong Ming Street and Po Hong Road (outside the Beverly Garden)*
	Outside Yi Chun Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Fui Yiu Lane Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Pik Sha Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Chung Hau Village Refuse Collection Point

* Location where illegal refuse dumping problem remained obstinate in the last 3 years.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)226

(Question Serial No. 1937)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Regarding the plan to refurbish public toilets with \$600 million, please set out the locations of the public toilets to be refurbished in 2019-2020.
2. Will the refurbishment works include the provision of baby-care facilities as well as handrails, coat hooks and racks inside toilet compartments? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
3. What is the estimated time normally required for refurbishing a public toilet?
4. What criteria will be adopted to continuously assess whether these public toilets meet hygiene standards after refurbishment?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows-

1. The list of public toilets for refurbishment or facelifting is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.
2. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. In addition to standard fittings of hand-grip rail, coat hook, small rack in each toilet compartment and baby changing table, the improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour

control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

3. The time needed to refurbish a public toilet is contingent upon its size as well as the scope and extent of works required. Depending on the scale of works, normally it will take about 5 to 8 months to complete the refurbishment works for a public toilet.
4. Dedicated deep cleansing teams are being deployed to enhance the cleansing services of public toilets with a high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots starting from March 2019. This has brought about improvement to the hygiene condition of the public toilets. In addition, staff of the Department have strengthened supervision of cleansing work by stepping up surprise inspections to monitor the contractors' performance to ensure that they meet the service standard as stipulated in the contract provisions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)227

(Question Serial No. 1938)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please set out the names of mobile applications (apps) developed in 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. What were their functions, the expenditure involved in development and the total number of downloads?
2. Please set out the names of mobile apps to be developed in 2019-20. What are their functions and the estimated expenditure to be involved?
3. Has the Government reviewed whether the apps developed meet the needs of the public? If yes, what are the review results?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environment Hygiene Department (the Department) developed one mobile application (app) in the past 2 years. The information sought is provided as follows –

Name	Functions	Development Cost	Launch Date	Number of Download (Up to 28 Feb 2019)
Internet Memorial Service Mobile App	To facilitate the public in paying online tribute to the deceased, provide information on after-death arrangements and promote green burial.	\$300,000	28 June 2018	1 000

2. The Department has no plan to develop mobile apps in 2019-20.

3. The Internet Memorial Service Mobile App was launched in June 2018. The Department will continue to monitor its utilisation and consider the need for and suitable ways of seeking user feedback at an appropriate time. Meanwhile, we will step up publicity of the mobile app among potential users.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)228

(Question Serial No. 1939)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated in Programme (2) that the protection of non-skilled workers employed by services contractors will be enhanced. Please provide the specific details.

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

Following announcement in the Chief Executive's 2018 Policy Address, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adopt the following new enhancement measures for service tenders to be issued on or after 1 April 2019 to protect outsourced non-skilled workers employed by its service contractors -

- (a) the weighting of technical assessment of the marking scheme will increase from the current 30% to 50%;
- (b) the weighting of wage level for non-skilled workers will increase to 25 points out of 100 points (25%) in the technical assessment;
- (c) a contractual gratuity being 6% of the total wages earned by a non-skilled worker will be provided for the worker with no less than one year's service of a continuous contract upon completion of an employment contract or termination of employment (save for summary dismissal as a serious disciplinary action);
- (d) statutory holiday pay will be provided for a non-skilled worker having been employed under a continuous contract for not less than a month; and
- (e) if a non-skilled worker is required to work when typhoon signal no. 8 or above is hoisted, the amount of wages for that day/shift's work should be at least 150% of the wages that the worker is originally entitled to.

To benefit non-skilled workers engaged in the service contracts awarded during the transitional period between the announcement of the new policy in October 2018 and the effective date of 1 April 2019, the Department will negotiate with the service contractors concerned to incorporate relevant new enhancement measures into the service contracts by making top-up payments on a reimbursement basis for the additional costs incurred.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)229

(Question Serial No. 2677)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Financial Secretary indicated that more resources would be allocated to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for refurbishing its public toilets by phases, with a view to improving ventilation and other facilities, as well as enhancing their cleanliness and hygiene. It is estimated that a total expenditure of over \$600 million may be incurred, involving about 240 public toilets in the coming 5 years. Please advise on -

1. in tabular form the distribution of the 240 public toilets to be refurbished in each district over the territory and the expenditure to be required for each district; and
2. the list of public toilets to be refurbished in 2019 and the expenditure to be involved in each of the refurbishment works.

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 41)

Reply:

The list of public toilets for refurbishment or facelifting is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)230****(Question Serial No. 2686)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide the following information as per the tables below and advise this Committee on the staff establishment and expenditure for handling the related applications:

- a) the number of applicants for the Places of Public Entertainment (PPE) Licence, the number of PPE licences issued, the number of applications rejected, and the average time span from submission of application to granting of consent to the relevant arrangements by all departments concerned in the past 3 years:

Number of applicants	Number of licences issued	Number of applications rejected	Average time span from submission of application to granting of consent to the relevant arrangements from all departments concerned

- b) the items and number of prosecutions against failure to apply for a PPE licence in the past 3 years and the fines and penalties imposed:

Item of prosecution	Number of prosecutions	Fines	Other penalties

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 104)Reply:

- a) The Places of Public Entertainment (PPE) Licences are under the Home Affairs Bureau's policy purview. The information sought in respect of PPE licences is provided as follows -

Year	Number of applications received	Number of applications not further processed (Note 1)	Number of licences issued (Note 2)	Number of applications rejected	Average processing time (working days) (Note 3)
2016	19	8	12	0	99
2017	63	32	12	0	113
2018	126	73	27	0	138

Note 1 : Applications required no further processing mainly due to withdrawal by the applicants.

Note 2 : Applications for licence received in a year may be carried forward for processing in the subsequent year.

Note 3 : It refers to the average time from receipt of an application to issue of a full licence. The processing time for an application is contingent upon the time spent by the applicant in complying with the relevant licensing requirements and settling objections raised by other departments concerned, if any. It varies from case to case.

Staff in the 3 licensing offices of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are responsible for handling applications for food business and other trade licences. They include Health Inspectorate Officers, Executive Officers, Clerical Officers, etc. There is no breakdown on the staff establishment and expenditure for handling the PPE licence applications.

b) The information sought is provided as follows -

Year	Item of prosecution	Number of prosecutions	Fines	Other penalties
2016	Unlicensed PPE	0	Not applicable	Not applicable
2017	Unlicensed PPE	1	\$42,000	Not applicable
2018	Unlicensed PPE	4	\$4,000 - \$21,000	Not applicable

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)231****(Question Serial No. 2688)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide this Committee with the information as per the tables below. Please also advise this Committee on the details of staff establishment and expenditure for the services:

Distribution by 18 districts	Number of refuse bins	Price of refuse bins	Durability in average	Reason(s) for replacement
Central and Western				
Eastern				
Southern				
Wan Chai				
Kowloon City				
Kwun Tong				
Sham Shui Po				
Wong Tai Sin				
Yau Tsim Mong				
Isalnds				
Kwai Ching				
North				
Sai Kung				
Sha Tin				
Tai Po				
Tsuen Wan				
Tuen Mun				
Yuen Long				

Distribution by 18 districts	Number of recyclables collection bins	Price	Durability in average	Reason(s) for replacement
Central and Western				

Eastern				
Southern				
Wan Chai				
Kowloon City				
Kwun Tong				
Sham Shui Po				
Wong Tai Sin				
Yau Tsim Mong				
Isalnds				
Kwai Ching				
North				
Sai Kung				
Sha Tin				
Tai Po				
Tsuen Wan				
Tuen Mun				
Yuen Long				

Distribution by 18 districts	Number of food waste collection bins	Price	Durability in average	Reason(s) for replacement
Central and Western				
Eastern				
Southern				
Wan Chai				
Kowloon City				
Kwun Tong				
Sham Shui Po				
Wong Tai Sin				
Yau Tsim Mong				
Isalnds				
Kwai Ching				
North				
Sai Kung				
Sha Tin				
Tai Po				
Tsuen Wan				
Tuen Mun				
Yuen Long				

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 99)

Reply:

The number of litter containers (LCs) and recyclables collection bins (RCBs) as at 31 December 2018, broken down by district, is provided as follows –

District	Number of LCs	Number of RCBs
Central and Western	964	145
Eastern	739	64
Southern	472	71
Wan Chai	925	99
Kowloon City	784	69
Kwun Tong	775	44
Sham Shui Po	630	57
Wong Tai Sin	508	38
Yau Tsim Mong	1 030	123
Islands	561	130
Kwai Tsing	699	57
North	419	185
Sai Kung	918	198
Sha Tin	1 372	104
Tai Po	602	162
Tsuen Wan	563	93
Tuen Mun	681	102
Yuen Long	927	240

Since July 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has taken part in a 2-year pilot project led by the Environmental Protection Department to collect and deliver the source-separated food waste generated from 40 selected public markets and cooked food centres under its management to the Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1 for recycling. The work is performed by service contractors at an estimated expenditure of \$10.1 million in 2018-19. The number of food waste collection bins (FWCBs) as at 31 December 2018, broken down by relevant district, is provided as follows –

District	Number of FWCBs
Central and Western	45
Eastern	74
Southern	50
Wan Chai	36
Kowloon City	46
Sham Shui Po	34
Wong Tai Sin	46
Yau Tsim Mong	51
Kwai Tsing	42
Tsuen Wan	46

The average cost of an LC, RCB and FWCB provided by the Department is about \$700, \$4,200 and \$270 respectively. In normal circumstances, an LC or FWCB of FEHD can be used for 1 to 2 years, and an FWCB for a longer period. LCs, RCBs and FWCBs will be replaced if they are found defective or if defects (e.g. stains) cannot be restored by manual

cleansing. Collection of recyclables from RCBs is contracted out at an estimated expenditure of \$18.0 million in 2018-19. Collection of waste from LCs is part of the street cleansing services provided by the Department or its service contractors, and there is no separate breakdown on the staff establishment or expenditure.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)232

(Question Serial No. 1511)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of public toilets under the management of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to be refurbished in each of the coming 5 years, the approximate time required for refurbishing each toilet, the major items of facilities to be refurbished, and the possibility of shortening the refurbishment period of 240 public toilets to 3 years.

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances. We are planning to commence refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post. We will keep progress of the programme under review.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)233

(Question Serial No. 1512)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

While refurbishing the hardware of public toilets, how will the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department require its contractors to improve the cleanliness of public toilets and the treatment of outsourced cleansing workers during the tendering process?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

To enhance the services of public toilets, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has stepped up monitoring of contractors' performances in cleansing those toilets with a high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots since September 2018. This has brought about improvement to the hygiene conditions of the toilets.

To improve the cleansing condition of public toilets and to relieve the workload of toilet attendants, the Department has allocated additional resources to procure the services of dedicated deep cleansing teams starting from March 2019 for toilets with a high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots. The Department plans to extend such services to all public toilets when respective street cleansing services contracts are renewed.

To continue to monitor contractors' performance, the Department will conduct routine and surprise inspections to public toilets. If the Department finds a contractor in breach of contract provisions, it will take appropriate follow up actions including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices with deduction of monthly payment of service charge, and even termination of contracts.

The Department will also adopt the following new enhancement measures for service tenders to be issued on or after 1 April 2019 to protect outsourced non-skilled workers (including toilet attendants) employed by its service contractors -

- (a) the weighting of technical assessment of the marking scheme will increase from the current 30% to 50%;

- (b) the weighting of wage level for non-skilled workers will increase to 25 points out of 100 points (25%) in the technical assessment;
- (c) a contractual gratuity being 6% of the total wages earned by a non-skilled worker will be provided for the worker with no less than one year's service of a continuous contract upon completion of an employment contract or termination of employment (save for summary dismissal as a serious disciplinary action);
- (d) statutory holiday pay will be provided for a non-skilled worker having been employed under a continuous contract for not less than a month; and
- (e) if a non-skilled worker is required to work when typhoon signal no. 8 or above is hoisted, the amount of wages for that day/shift's work should be at least 150% of the wages that the worker is originally entitled to.

To benefit non-skilled workers engaged in the service contracts awarded during the transitional period between the announcement of the new policy in October 2018 and the effective date of 1 April 2019, the Department will negotiate with the service contractors concerned to incorporate relevant new enhancement measures into the service contracts by making top-up payments on a reimbursement basis for the additional costs incurred.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)234

(Question Serial No. 1513)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the measures taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to raise the cleanliness standards of cleansing workers in public toilets? Will the Department consider organising public toilet cleansing competition and the best toilet cleaner competition, etc. on a regular basis to enhance the working incentive of cleansing workers through awards?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

To enhance the services of public toilets, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has stepped up monitoring of contractors' performances in cleansing those toilets with a high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots since September 2018. This has brought about improvement to the hygiene conditions of the toilets.

To improve the cleansing condition of public toilets and to relieve the workload of toilet attendants, the Department has allocated additional resources to procure the services of dedicated deep cleansing teams starting from March 2019 for toilets with a high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots. The Department plans to extend such services to all public toilets when respective street cleansing services contracts are renewed at an estimated expenditure of about \$60 million.

To continue to monitor contractors' performance, the Department will also conduct routine and surprise inspections to public toilets. If the Department finds a contractor in breach of contract provisions, it will take appropriate follow up actions including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices with deduction of monthly payment of service charge, and even termination of contracts.

In November 2018, the Department created dedicated posts to step up surprise inspections of cleansing and other public hygiene services provided by outsourced service contractors to better monitor the quality of services. The Department considers that the above

enhancement measures can effectively improve the supervision of toilet services and a review on how to further enhance cleanliness of public toilets can be carried out at a later stage. In parallel, the Department is stepping up public education on proper use of toilet facilities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)235

(Question Serial No. 1514)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the measures taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to enhance the civic-mindedness of public toilet users? Will the Department consider, making reference to other countries such as Singapore, introducing penalties to step up prosecution?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will continue to make use of the Facebook and Instagram pages of Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak as well as other publicity materials to step up public education on the importance of toilet hygiene and proper use of toilet facilities. With the experience of setting up health education promotional booths at selected public toilets with high utilisation rates, the Department plans to extend implementation of the measure to other suitable public toilets to remind the public of being mindful and considerate when using public toilets. The Department will emphasise education and publicity to appeal for public support and co-operation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)236

(Question Serial No. 1542)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please advise on the means of appointment (including but not limited to civil servants, government contract staff, outsourced workers) of cleansing workers in public toilets under the management of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.
2. What are the highest, lowest and average hourly rates of cleansing workers under the above means of appointment?
3. Are there any plans to raise the cleanliness standards of public toilets by improving the treatment of cleansing workers?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 43)

Reply:

1. All cleansing workmen responsible for cleansing of public toilets under the management of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) are employed by its outsourced service contractors.
2. The highest, lowest and average committed hourly wages of toilet attendants made by service contractors in 2019-20 (as at 31.12.2018) are \$41.0, \$34.5 and \$36.3 respectively.
3. To improve the cleansing condition of public toilets and to relieve the workload of toilet attendants, the Department has allocated additional resources to procure the services of dedicated deep cleansing teams starting from March 2019 for public toilets with relatively high utilisation rate or located at tourist spots. The Department plans to extend such services to all public toilets upon renewal of respective street cleansing services contracts.

The Department will also adopt the following new enhancement measures for service tenders to be issued on or after 1 April 2019 to protect outsourced non-skilled workers (including toilet attendants) employed by its service contractors -

- (a) the weighting of technical assessment of the marking scheme will increase from the current 30% to 50%;
- (b) the weighting of wage level for non-skilled workers will increase to 25 points out of 100 points (25%) in the technical assessment;
- (c) a contractual gratuity being 6% of the total wages earned by a non-skilled worker will be provided for the worker with no less than one year's service of a continuous contract upon completion of an employment contract or termination of employment (save for summary dismissal as a serious disciplinary action);
- (d) statutory holiday pay will be provided for a non-skilled worker having been employed under a continuous contract for not less than a month; and
- (e) if a non-skilled worker is required to work when typhoon signal no. 8 or above is hoisted, the amount of wages for that day/shift's work should be at least 150% of the wages that the worker is originally entitled to.

To benefit non-skilled workers engaged in the service contracts during the transitional period between the announcement of the new policy in October 2018 and the effective date of 1 April 2019, the Department will negotiate with the service contractors concerned to incorporate relevant new enhancement measures into the service contracts by making top-up payments on a reimbursement basis for the additional costs incurred.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)237

(Question Serial No. 2050)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and the Buildings Department (BD) set up a Joint Office (JO) in 2006 to handle reports on water seepage in buildings. In this connection, please provide this Committee with:

1. a breakdown by District Council district of the following in the past year: the numbers of complaints and reported cases on water seepage received by JO, the number of reported cases handled by JO as classified by handling results (including the respective numbers of cases in which the source of water seepage could not be confirmed and investigation was terminated), the number of entry warrants granted by the court, the respective number of cases in which the persons concerned were prosecuted and convicted (to be set out one by one by the legislation involved), and the average and longest handling time for those cases the handling of which was completed;
2. the respective number of personnel deployed by BD and FEHD to station in JO. Will additional manpower and resources be allocated to JO in the coming financial year? If yes, the details;
3. the locations selected, the commissioning dates, the number of personnel to be deployed and the estimated expenditure, in respect of the 4 regional joint offices planned to be set up by JO; and
4. the method of testing currently adopted in Stage III water seepage investigation by contract consultants commissioned by the Government and the average cost of conducting tests for each case.

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

1. For water seepage cases received in 2018, the average and longest time for completing investigation is 49 and 355 calendar days respectively. The information sought is provided at Annex I and II.
- 2&3. The staff establishment and estimated expenditure of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and the Buildings Department (BD) in connection with the operation of the Joint Office (JO) in 2018-19 and 2019-20 are provided as follows –

	2018-19	2019-20
FEHD		
Number of investigation and coordinating staff	227	237
Staff costs and departmental expenses (\$ million)	109.2 (revised estimate)	130.6 (estimate)
BD		
Number of professional and technical staff	76	82
Staff costs and departmental expenses (\$ million)	42.2 (revised estimate)	50.8 (estimate)
Expenditure for engaging outsourced consultants (\$ million)	36.0 (revised estimate)	52.8 (estimate)

The four regional offices of JO are planned to be set up in the second half of 2019. The Hong Kong regional office and the New Territories West regional office will be located in Southern District and Tsuen Wan District respectively. Suitable office accommodations are being identified for the regional offices in Kowloon and the New Territories East respectively.

4. Conventional testing methods such as ponding and water spray test for floor slab and reversible pressure test for water supply pipes as well as technological testing methods (i.e. infrared thermography and microwave tomography) in pilot districts are conducted by outsourced consultants engaged by JO for Stage III investigation of water seepage. The cost for conducting tests for an ordinary domestic flat with one kitchen and one toilet with technological testing methods is generally around \$9,000, excluding the overall staffing and operating expenditure of FEHD and BD at the JO.

- End -

Water Seepage Cases in 2018

District	Total number of cases	No. of cases screened out⁽¹⁾	No. of cases with seepage ceased during investigation	No. of cases without identified source of seepage	No. of cases with identified source of seepage	No. of cases with investigation work completed⁽²⁾	No. of entry warrant granted by Court
			(a)	(b)	(c)	(d) = (a)+(b)+(c)	
Central and Western	1 381	836	176	101	197	474	1
Wan Chai	1 396	680	450	157	165	772	3
Eastern	4 507	2 089	640	412	659	1 711	20
Southern	1 216	431	145	89	268	502	1
Islands	201	115	4	11	32	47	1
Yau Tsim	1 521	553	103	48	273	424	1
Mong Kok	1 734	1 139	198	72	282	552	3
Sham Shui Po	2 100	579	300	99	267	666	2
Kowloon City	3 271	1 073	382	359	589	1 330	1
Wong Tai Sin	1 601	180	256	48	286	590	4
Kwun Tong	2 933	938	198	382	455	1 035	1
Kwai Tsing	2 300	892	598	191	565	1 354	8
Tsuen Wan	2 230	773	207	297	416	920	1
Tuen Mun	2 828	1 291	256	180	358	794	1
Yuen Long	831	326	109	59	87	255	0
North	745	708	145	30	101	276	0
Tai Po	1 410	805	91	62	129	282	0
Sha Tin	2 997	676	389	384	476	1 249	0
Sai Kung	1 426	487	110	183	124	417	3
Others ⁽³⁾	56	Not Applicable					
Total	36 684	14 571	4 757	3 164	5 729	13 650	51

Note (1) : These include unjustified cases and withdrawn cases.

Note (2) : The figures do not necessarily correspond to the number of reports received in the same year.

Note (3) : The figures refer to general enquiries about policy matters or complaints on water seepage investigation procedure.

Prosecution and Conviction Statistics for 2018

Legislative provision contravened	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions⁽¹⁾
Section 127(3), Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132)	79	99
Section 127(7) , Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132)	3	6

Note (1) : Inclusive of some cases prosecuted before 2018.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)238

(Question Serial No. 2053)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20, it is mentioned that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to improve facilities of existing public markets by implementing the Market Modernisation Programme. Please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the estimated provision for implementing the programme in 2019-20, the number of public markets involved, the specific details and the implementation timetable of the programme; and
- (2) the latest progress of the programme and the list of markets which will be accorded priority for an overhaul or redevelopment.

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for the Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated

expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)239

(Question Serial No. 2063)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the proposal in paragraph 169 of the Budget Speech that the Government will allocate more resources to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for refurbishing its public toilets by phases, please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the locations of all newly built, refurbished and redeveloped public toilets last year and the construction costs of the relevant projects; and
- (2) the estimated provision for implementing the proposal in 2019-20, as well as the specific details and implementation timetable.

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

- (1) The information sought is set out at Annex.
- (2) The list of public toilets for refurbishment or facelifting is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We plan to commence refurbishment or facelifting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20 with an estimated expenditure of about \$20 million in the first year. Further details such as the locations of these toilets and the implementation timetable will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.

- End -

Newly Built / Refurbished / Re-provisioned Public Toilets (PTs) in 2018-19
(As at 8 March 2019)

	District	Name of Public Toilet	Project Cost (\$ million)	Nature of Works
1	Islands	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet#	8.000	Newly Built PT
2	Islands	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet#	6.600	Newly Built PT
3	Islands	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet#	6.500	Newly Built PT
4	Islands	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet#	6.400	Newly Built PT
5	Islands	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet#	13.300	Newly Built PT
6	North	Ho Sheung Heung Public Toilet (III)	6.437	Newly Built PT
7	Sai Kung	Duckling Hill Public Toilet	5.950	Newly Built PT
8	Central and Western	Belcher's Street Public Toilet	5.300	Refurbished PT
9	Central and Western	Exchange Square Public Toilet	3.900	Refurbished PT
10	Eastern	Tung Hei Road Public Toilet	9.200	Refurbished PT
11	North	Kam Tsin (North) Public Toilet	3.890	Refurbished PT
12	North	Wu Kau Tan Public Toilet	3.480	Refurbished PT
13	Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Government Offices Public Toilet	2.900	Refurbished PT
14	Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street Public Toilet	10.899	Refurbished PT
15	Southern	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital Public Toilet	1.914	Refurbished PT
16	Tai Po	Tai Po Plaza Public Toilet	3.311	Refurbished PT
17	Tuen Mun	Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	3.870	Refurbished PT
18	Wan Chai	Moreton Terrace Public Toilet	3.998	Refurbished PT
19	Yau Tsim	Battery Street Public Toilet	6.160	Refurbished PT
20	Yuen Long	Wing Ping Tsuen Public Toilet	5.080	Refurbished PT

	District	Name of Public Toilet	Project Cost (\$ million)	Nature of Works
21	Central and Western	Centre Street Public Toilet	Project cost of the PT is subsumed under the construction cost of Centre Street Market West Block at \$28.646 million under West Island Line Project of the Highways Department. Cost breakdown for the PT is not available.	Reprovisioned PT
22	North	Siu Hang San Tsuen Public Toilet	4.670	Reprovisioned PT
23	North	Wa Shan Tsuen Public Toilet	4.160	Reprovisioned PT
24	Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	4.142	Reprovisioned PT
25	Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	20.000	Reprovisioned PT

Located at Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)240

(Question Serial No. 2823)

Head: (31) Customs and Excise Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (5) Trade Controls

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Hermes TANG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

There was a decrease in the amount of administrative penalties imposed by the Customs and Excise Department in relation to import and export declarations in 2018 as compared with 2017. Please inform this Committee of:

1. the numbers of cases in which a fine was imposed for contravention of the Import and Export (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2013 (commonly known as the “export control on powdered formulae”) broken down by month from 2016 to 2018 as well as the total amounts of fines involved;
2. the number of cases with imposition of fines ended up in default of fine payment in 2018 as well as the total amount of fines in default;
3. the types of document of identity (e.g. Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card, “one trip per week” Individual Visit Endorsements, endorsements for group visit, etc.) the defendants held in cases of default of fine payment;
4. how the Government normally handles cases of default of fine payment as well as the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon FAN Kwok-wai, Gary (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

1. The numbers of cases in which a fine was imposed by the courts for contravention of the Import and Export (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2013 and the amounts of fines involved with breakdown by month from 2016 to 2018 are tabulated below:

2016

Month Imposed	Number of Cases	Amount of Fines
January	281	\$1,107,400
February	200	\$734,700
March	302	\$1,321,500
April	246	\$961,000
May	273	\$1,107,300

Month Imposed	Number of Cases	Amount of Fines
June	284	\$1,030,300
July	249	\$909,600
August	294	\$1,059,800
September	312	\$1,104,300
October	313	\$1,092,900
November	314	\$1,195,500
December	311	\$1,076,500
Whole Year	3 379	\$12,700,800

2017

Month Imposed	Number of Cases	Amount of Fines
January	272	\$960,600
February	224	\$795,900
March	346	\$1,215,000
April	261	\$877,800
May	258	\$905,700
June	321	\$1,072,966
July	376	\$1,327,450
August	385	\$1,326,500
September	345	\$1,192,400
October	310	\$1,056,700
November	364	\$1,249,200
December	297	\$1,007,400
Whole Year	3 759	\$12,987,616

2018

Month Imposed	Number of Cases	Amount of Fines
January	358	\$1,221,100
February	202	\$671,700
March	300	\$1,001,500
April	267	\$897,300
May	293	\$1,297,700
June	342	\$1,129,200
July	340	\$1,132,100
August	391	\$2,094,600
September	310	\$1,041,300
October	343	\$1,112,900
November	372	\$1,179,200
December	307	\$988,500
Whole Year	3 825	\$13,767,100

2. & 3. The Judiciary does not have the relevant breakdown figures.

4. A magistrate may issue a summons or a warrant of arrest to any person who fails to pay a fine. However, it is difficult to separately quantify the expenditure on handling such cases.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)241

(Question Serial No. 5584)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20 of Programme (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety that the Bureau will continue to implement a strategic plan for reducing the levels of salt and sugar in food to promote healthy eating.

- 1) What are the manpower, staff cost, expenditure on welfare benefits and operating expenses involved in the above-mentioned work?
- 2) What has been done in respect of the above work over the past 3 years (for example, public surveys, publicity and research programmes)? What are the details of any future implementation of strategic plans?
- 3) How will the Bureau monitor the above work? Have any indicators been set for the work; and if so, what are the details? What will the Bureau do if the work is below par or fails to meet expectations?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 417)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Department of Health (DH) announced "Towards 2025: Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong" in May last year. The targets include achieving a 30% relative reduction in the mean population daily intake of sodium, halting the rise in diabetes and obesity, and containing the prevalence of raised blood pressure by 2025.

FHB, the Centre for Food Safety, DH and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food are promoting salt and sugar reduction on various fronts as follows:

- (a) Starting from 2018/19 school year, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter. As at to-date, more than 350 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 34% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) have participated in the Charter and pledged to provide children with water and healthy drinks, not to provide drinks with added sugar or a relatively high sugar content, and not to use food as a reward;

- (b) DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches since 2017/18 school year. So far, 12 school lunch suppliers have joined the Scheme and provided over 1 500 sodium-reduced lunch options to about 490 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. about 85% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500mg in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch decreased by 14% as compared to that of 2013, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018;
- (c) We launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017. At present, the labels are displayed on more than 230 prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" or "no sugar";
- (d) Since January this year, more than 500 restaurants involving over 100 brand names have supported our salt and sugar reduction scheme and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less salt and sugar dishes;
- (e) Several large-scale food manufacturers have reformulated, or undertaken to reformulate, their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups; and
- (f) We have been carrying out a wide range of publicity and educational efforts through various channels, including television, social media, the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction", promotional activities and competitions etc. In February 2019, we organised a large-scale promotional event to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture and new living style.

We will continue to promote salt and sugar reduction territory-wide along the above strategies. We will focus on encouraging more manufacturers/importers to display "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar" labels on pre-packaged food products, calling on more restaurants to participate in the salt and sugar reduction scheme and proactively motivating more local manufacturers to reformulate their products, so that the less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture will gradually take root in the community.

Promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide is our ongoing work. FHB has earmarked \$4.5 million in 2019-20 for implementing individual projects or publicity activities concerned. The manpower and other recurrent expenses concerned have been covered under FHB's overall allocation, and it is difficult to have a separate breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)242

(Question Serial No. 5560)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Will the Government inform this Committee of the estimated annual salary cost for the Secretary for Food and Health in 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 389)

Reply:

The provision reserved in the 2019-20 estimates for the salaries for the Secretary for Food and Health is \$4.08 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)243****(Question Serial No. 3462)**

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Did the Government receive any records of non-compliance cases on hospice services and grooming services for animals in the past 3 years? If so, what were the enforcement actions taken by the Government?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

The relevant Government departments may, according to their respective mandate, conduct inspections of premises for the purpose of checking whether the premises are used in ways that comply with the relevant legislation and requirements, including provisions in the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance (Cap. 139), the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311), the Fire Services Ordinance (Cap. 95), the Dangerous Goods Ordinance (Cap. 295), the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123) and the land lease, etc. Details of non-compliance found on premises that offer hospice services and grooming services for animals during such inspections are set out below –

	Date	District where Non-Compliant Premises are Found	Act of Non-Compliance	Ordinance Violated	Penalty	Follow-up Action
1	From 18 May 2016 to 28 May 2016	Shau Kei Wan	Keeping of boarding establishment for animals without licence.	Public Health (Animals) (Boarding Establishment) Regulations	The defendant was convicted and fined	The suspect was prosecuted.

	Date	District where Non-Compliant Premises are Found	Act of Non-Compliance	Ordinance Violated	Penalty	Follow-up Action
				(Cap. 139I)	\$1,000 on 25 April 2017.	
	15 August 2018		Offering to sell a dog without one-off permit.	Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B)	The defendant was convicted and fined \$20,000 on 12 February 2019.	The suspect was prosecuted.
2	12 December 2016	Kwai Chung	Breach of the user condition of the lease.	Not applicable*	Warning letter issued*.	The warning letter was registered in the Land Registry on 10 March 2017.
	4 January 2017		Evolved air pollutants reason improper operation.	Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311)	Notice to modify, install and operate chimney and relevant plant.	Confirmed compliance on 7 April 2017.
	11 May 2017		Evolved air pollutants reason improper operation and defective construction.	Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311)	Notice to modify, install and operate chimney and relevant plant.	Confirmed compliance on 4 July 2017.
3	16 July 2016	Kwun Tong	Removal of 1 no. of fire extinguisher.	Fire Services Ordinance, (Cap. 95)	Warning letter was issued.	Warning letter was found complied with.
	16 July 2016		2 nos. of fire extinguishers lack of annual maintenance.	Fire Service (Installations and Equipment) Regulations (Cap. 95B)	Warning letter was issued.	Warning letter was found complied with.

	Date	District where Non-Compliant Premises are Found	Act of Non-Compliance	Ordinance Violated	Penalty	Follow-up Action
4	12 December 2016 and 10 August 2017	Kwai Chung	Breach of the user condition of the lease.	Not applicable*.	Warning letter issued*.	The warning letter was registered in the Land Registry on 3 October 2017.
	4 January 2017		Evolved air pollutants reason improper operation.	Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311)	Notice to modify, install and operate chimney and relevant plant was issued.	Confirmed compliance on 7 April 2017.
	7 September 2018		Installed furnace and chimney without prior approval from the Environmental Protection Department.	Air Pollution Control (Furnaces, Ovens and Chimneys) (Installation and Alternation) Regulations (Cap.311A)	Upon conviction, to a maximum fine of \$50,000, and, in addition, shall be liable to a fine of \$500 for each day during which the offence has continued.	Prosecution was initiated and hearing will be held on 2 April 2019.
5	6 January 2017	Tsing Yi	Obstruction to Fire Service Installations.	Fire Services Ordinance (Cap. 95)	Warning letters were issued.	Warning letters were found complied with.
	7 August 2018		May evolve air pollutants reason improper design.	Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311)	Notice to modify, install and operate chimney and relevant plant was	The Environmental Protection Department would conduct follow-up inspections. If non-compliance with the notice requirements is found, prosecution

	Date	District where Non-Compliant Premises are Found	Act of Non-Compliance	Ordinance Violated	Penalty	Follow-up Action
					issued.	will be initiated.
6	28 April 2017	Tsuen Wan	Offering to sell a dog without one-off permit.	Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B)	The defendant was convicted and fined \$4,000 on 21 March 2018.	The suspect was prosecuted.
7	12 November 2017	Yau Tong	Offering to sell a dog without one-off permit.	Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B)	The defendant was convicted and fined \$5,000 on 8 May 2018.	The suspect was prosecuted.
8	From 29 March 2018 to 3 April 2018	San Po Kong	Keeping of boarding establishment for animals without licence.	Public Health (Animals) (Boarding Establishment) Regulations (Cap. 139I)	The defendant was convicted and fined \$1,000 on 27 September 2018.	The suspect was prosecuted.
9	12 April 2018	Tuen Mun	Offering to sell a dog without one-off permit.	Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B)	The defendant was convicted and fined \$5,500 on 18 January 2019.	The suspect was prosecuted.
10	26 November 2018	Kwai Chung	Breach of the user condition of the lease.	Not applicable*.	Warning letter issued*.	The warning letter was registered in the Land Registry on 29 January 2019.

* A land lease is a contract. A breach of lease conditions may result in lease enforcement action taken by the Lands Department in its capacity as the landlord. It does not involve prosecution.

Note: According to the Environment Protection Department, it does not have any non-compliance record against animal hospice services for 2016. According to the Buildings Department, it does not compile statistics on non-compliant premises offering animal hospice and beauty services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)244

(Question Serial No. 4355)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding its work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Administration advise this Committee on the following:

1) concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) for which only some of the required information was provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

2) concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) for which the required information was not provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 99)

Reply:

During the period from January to September 2018, none of the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) were refused or partially refused.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)245

(Question Serial No. 5684)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the records management work of your Bureau and the departments under your purview over the past year:

1. Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer so designated, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake;
2. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal, including:

Category of records	
Years covered by the records	
Number and linear metres of records	
Retention period approved by GRS	
Whether they are confidential documents	
Reasons for not having been transferred	

3. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention, including:

Category of records	
Years covered by the records	
Number and linear metres of records	
Years that the records were transferred to GRS	
Retention period approved by GRS	
Whether they are confidential documents	

4. Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS, including:

Category of records	
Years covered by the records	
Number and linear metres of records	
Years that the records were transferred to GRS	
Retention period approved by GRS	
Whether they are confidential documents	

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1409)

Reply:

The details of records management work in the Food and Health Bureau and its departments under the Food portfolio, i.e. Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and Government Laboratory in 2018 are provided at Annex 1, Annex 2, Annex 3 and Annex 4 respectively.

- End -

Records management work
in the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) in 2018

1. Information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform records management work in FHB is provided below -

2 Confidential Assistants, 2 Assistant Clerical Officers and 1 Clerical Assistant are designated to carry out records management duties on a full time basis in FHB, including both Food Branch (Head 139) and Health Branch (Head 140). The other clerical and secretarial staff in the Bureau also perform routine records management duties in addition to their own operational duties. At the management level, the Bureau has appointed officers at different levels to oversee records management policies and activities as part of their work, in addition to other administrative or operational duties. A directorate officer overseeing records management is underpinned by the Departmental Records Manager (at Senior Executive Officer level) and an Assistant Departmental Records Manager (at Executive Officer II level) to coordinate and perform records management work in the Bureau. 17 Records Managers at or above the rank of Executive Officer II or equivalent are also appointed to oversee records management matters in their respective units.

2. Information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal is provided below-

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents	Reasons for not having been transferred
Programme records	1946 - 1989	42 records (1.68 lm)	25 years	8 records of which are confidential	Pending GRS's further instruction

3. Information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Nil					

4. Information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Administrative records	1976 - 2004	94 records (6.45 lm)	Not applicable#	2 - 7 years	No

Destruction of these records was arranged by FHB (Food Branch) direct after obtaining approval from GRS. There was no need to transfer such records to GRS.

Records management work
in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in 2018

1. Information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform records management work in AFCD is provided below -

A total of 11 staff in the Department, including 2 Clerical Officers, 2 Assistant Clerical Officers, 5 Clerical Assistants and 2 Confidential Assistants, are deployed full time to carry out records management work. To ensure proper management of departmental records, the Department has assigned the Departmental Secretary (at the rank of Chief Executive Officer) as the Departmental Records Manager and 21 officers of various grades and ranks as Assistant Departmental Records Managers. They oversee the establishment, implementation and documentation of departmental records management practices and procedures according to the relevant guidelines and instructions of GRS and the departmental records management policy, in addition to performing other duties.

2. Information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to GRS for appraisal is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents	Reasons for not having been transferred
Programme records	1952 - 2010	372 records (22.32 lm)	5 - 12 years	No	Pending GRS's further instruction
Administrative records	1979 - 1991	81 records (2.03 lm)	1 - 5 years	Yes	Pending GRS's further instruction

3. Information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	1992 - 2012	1 606 records (20 lm)	2018	7 years	No

4. Information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	1975 - 2010	1 471 records (58.30 lm)	Not applicable#	7 - 12 years	No
Administrative records	1988 - 2013	783 records (29.7 lm)	Not applicable#	1 - 7 years	188 records of which are confidential

Destruction of these records was arranged by AFCD direct after obtaining approval from GRS. There was no need to transfer such records to GRS.

Records management work
in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) in 2018

1. Information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform records management work in FEHD is provided below -

The day-to-day records management work is mainly undertaken by the registry staff (e.g. clerical grade staff) of FEHD on a full-time or part-time basis. At the headquarters level, apart from staff who work on records management on a part-time basis, a total of 12 staff, including 1 Assistant Clerical Officer, 6 Clerical Assistants, 1 Senior Confidential Assistant, 4 Confidential Assistants, are deployed full time to carry out records management work. At the section/district level, such work is taken up by staff on a part-time basis. On the management side, FEHD has appointed officers at different levels to oversee records management policies and activities on a part-time basis in addition to their other administrative or operational duties. A directorate officer overseeing records management is underpinned by the Departmental Records Manager and Branch Records Managers at Chief Executive Officer level to establish and implement comprehensive records management programmes at departmental and branch levels respectively. A total of 130 Records Managers not below the rank of Executive Officer II or equivalent are also appointed to oversee records management matters in individual sections/districts.

2. Information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to GRS for appraisal is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents	Reasons for not having been transferred
Programme records	2004 - 2018	126 records (11.75 lm)	3 - 12 years	1 record of which is confidential	These files are still under their retention period
Administrative records	2002 - 2018	3 342 records (23.74 lm)	2 - 7 years	1 record of which is confidential	These files are still under their retention period

3. Information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	1990 - 2010	16 records (0.64 lm)	2018	3 - 5 years	5 records of which are confidential
Administrative records	2001 - 2011	400 records (0.37 lm)	2018	3 - 7 years	No

4. Information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme records	1971 - 2017	449 017 records (1 151.85 lm)	Not applicable#	1.5 - 13 years	682 records of which are confidential
Administrative records	1966 - 2017	267 243 records (724.79 lm)	Not applicable#	3 months - 7 years	2 832 records of which are confidential

Destruction of these records was arranged by FEHD direct after obtaining approval from GRS. There was no need to transfer such records to GRS.

Records management work
in the Government Laboratory (GL) in 2018

1. Information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform records management work in GL is provided below -

In GL, 31 officers from various grades and ranks are involved in records management work, as part of their duties. On average, they spend about 10% of their working hours each day on such work. On top of records management, depending on the nature of their posts, they will be involved in other clerical, secretarial, personnel, financial, accounting, procurement and office management duties. To ensure proper management of departmental records, the Department has assigned the Departmental Secretary (at the rank of Chief Executive Officer) as the Departmental Records Manager and 3 officers at the rank of Executive Officer I as Assistant Departmental Records Managers. They oversee the establishment, implementation and documentation of departmental records management practices and procedures according to the relevant guidelines and instructions of the Government Records Service and the departmental records management policy, in addition to performing other duties.

2. Information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to GRS for appraisal is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents	Reasons for not having been transferred
Nil					

3. Information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Nil					

4. Information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS is provided below -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
Programme Records	1974 - 1998	100 records (4.0 lm)	Not applicable#	5 - 7 years	No
Administrative records	1969 - 2009	283 records (11.32 lm)	Not applicable#	1 - 7 years	No

Destruction of these records was arranged by GL direct after obtaining approval from GRS. There was no need to transfer such records to GRS.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)246

(Question Serial No. 6997)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

(a) Regarding the Government's implementation of the New Agriculture Policy, the Secretary for Food and Health said that the Government would promote the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture through inducing the enhanced competitiveness of local farms and the use of quality agricultural land for agricultural purposes. As mentioned in the Report of the Task Force on Land Supply, major developers are believed to be holding no less than 1 000 hectares of agricultural land in the New Territories. Does the Government have any plan to resume the agricultural land in the New Territories to promote the development of Hong Kong's agriculture? If so, what is the plan? If no, what are the reasons?

(b) The New Agriculture Policy aims to boost the agriculture industry in Hong Kong. Are there any actual target figures, such as food self-sufficiency rate, figures on employment and training in the agriculture industry and quantity of agricultural products exported?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7851)

Reply:

(a) We have been implementing the New Agriculture Policy (NAP) since 2016 to promote the modernisation and sustainable development of the local agricultural sector. At present, there are around 4 300 hectares (ha) of agricultural land, with about 740 ha under active farming. A high proportion of the agricultural land is in private hands.

Under the NAP, we will establish an Agricultural Park (Agri-Park) in Kwu Tung South to help nurture agro-technology and knowledge on modern farm management. The Agri-Park will provide around 80 ha of farmland. Aside from a small amount of government land in the planned site area, the Government will resume privately-owned land, mostly fallow agricultural land, for the establishment of the

Agri-Park. When fully commissioned, the Agri-Park will rehabilitate about 50 ha of fallow agricultural land.

While sustainable development of local agriculture does not require all existing farmland, to ensure that sufficient land will be available to meet the needs of the agricultural sector, a consultancy study is being conducted to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land as Agricultural Priority Areas, and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage owners to put currently fallow land into long-term agricultural use. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland and studying overseas experience, before making recommendations.

We will continue to support local agriculture under NAP through among others funding agricultural projects and financing acquisition of farming equipment under the \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund, providing technical advice on farming techniques, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices like organic farming and helping farmers market their produce.

- (b) As Hong Kong is a service-oriented economy, understandably the scale of local agriculture is small, which accounts for only a small share of local food supply and workforce. The NAP is not meant to significantly raise the scale of the sector, but to help modernise it, increase its competitiveness and help farmers move up the value chain for sustainable development. At the moment, we do not consider it necessary to set any hard targets in quantitative terms.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)247

(Question Serial No. 3596)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to legislation regulating organic food, please advise on the following:

- a) How does the Government facilitate the effective identification of organic food by the public?
- b) Please provide the number of prosecutions related to fake organic food in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 92)

Reply:

The major differences between organic food and ordinary food are their ways of production, processing and handling. There is no notable difference between the two in terms of food safety. All food for sale in Hong Kong for human consumption (whether organic or ordinary food) must comply with the statutory standards for food safety, quality and labelling to ensure its fitness for human consumption.

The Government has been giving support through the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to the Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre for promotion of organic education and certification. Furthermore, there are 3 approved projects under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund with a total funding commitment of \$44 million which aim to enhance the technical support and certification of local organic farms and promotion of their produce. These projects will start in April 2019 and last for 36 to 48 months.

Under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362) (the Ordinance), any person who, in the course of any trade or business, makes false or misleading statements in respect of the goods, including organic food, which he supplies commits an offence. The Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) may take enforcement actions according to the Ordinance. In

the past 3 years, C&ED instituted 1 prosecution concerning counterfeit organic food under the Ordinance, which was successfully convicted.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)248

(Question Serial No. 6154)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) on “reduction of sodium and sugar in food”, please advise on the following:

- (1) the details of the related work in 2019-20;
- (2) the details and expenditure involved in the promotion and publicity of “reduction of sodium and sugar in food”, the expenditure incurred in engaging public relations agencies for such purpose and the details of their services over the past 3 years; and
- (3) how CFS assesses the effectiveness of its work on “reduction of sodium and sugar in food”.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Department of Health (DH) announced “Towards 2025: Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control Non-communicable Diseases in Hong Kong” in May last year. The targets include achieving a 30% relative reduction in the mean population daily intake of sodium, halting the rise in diabetes and obesity, and containing the prevalence of raised blood pressure by 2025.

FHB, the Centre for Food Safety, DH and the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food are promoting salt and sugar reduction on various fronts as follows:

- (a) Starting from 2018/19 school year, DH has launched the Healthy Drinks at School Charter. As at to-date, more than 350 kindergartens and child care centres (i.e. about 34% of kindergartens and child care centres in Hong Kong) have participated in the Charter and pledged to provide children with water and healthy drinks, not to provide drinks with added sugar or a relatively high sugar content, and not to use food as a reward;

- (b) DH has launched the Salt Reduction Scheme for School Lunches since 2017/18 school year. So far, 12 school lunch suppliers have joined the Scheme and provided over 1 500 sodium-reduced lunch options to about 490 primary schools in Hong Kong (i.e. about 85% of primary schools in Hong Kong). DH's target is to reduce the average sodium level of primary school lunches by 5% to 10% per year, with a view to cutting the average sodium level of primary school lunches down to not more than 500mg in ten years. In 2017/18 school year, the average sodium content of primary school lunch decreased by 14% as compared to that of 2013, meeting the Scheme's sodium reduction target for 2018;
- (c) We launched the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products in October 2017. At present, the labels are displayed on more than 230 prepackaged food products which meet the legal definition of "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" or "no sugar";
- (d) Since January this year, more than 500 restaurants involving over 100 brand names have supported our salt and sugar reduction scheme and provided customers with options of reduced salt and/or sugar or tailor-made less salt and sugar dishes;
- (e) Several large-scale food manufacturers have reformulated, or undertaken to reformulate, their prepackaged food products, covering various types of drinks, instant noodles and soups; and
- (f) We have been carrying out a wide range of publicity and educational efforts through various channels, including television, social media, the Facebook and Instagram pages on "Hong Kong's Action on Salt & Sugar Reduction", promotional activities and competitions etc. In February 2019, we organised a large-scale promotional event to promote a less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture and new living style.

We will continue to promote salt and sugar reduction territory-wide along the above strategies. We will focus on encouraging more manufacturers/importers to display "low salt", "no salt", "low sugar" and "no sugar" labels on pre-packaged food products, calling on more restaurants to participate in the salt and sugar reduction scheme and proactively motivating more local manufacturers to reformulate their products, so that the less-salt-and-sugar dietary culture will gradually take root in the community.

Promoting salt and sugar reduction territory-wide is our ongoing work. FHB has spent \$5.82 million and \$4 million in implementing individual projects or publicity activities in this regard in 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. FHB has earmarked \$4.5 million in 2019-20 for this purpose, including engaging consultancy firms to assist with project implementation, public relations and publicity activities. The manpower and other recurrent expenses concerned have been covered under FHB's overall allocation, and it is difficult to have a separate breakdown.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)249

(Question Serial No. 6306)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned in Programme (2) under Head 139 on page 417 that the Food and Health Bureau will “continue to study the feasibility of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory to enhance its testing capability and operational efficiency for tests relating to food safety”. Please advise:

- (1) on the detailed work plan and progress of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory; the scale of the Food Safety Laboratory; the estimated time of submitting the proposal to the Legislative Council; and
- (2) whether the Bureau will outsource the food tests to private testing laboratories before the reprovisioning and expanding of the Food Safety Laboratory, so as to enhance the efficiency of testing and increase the number of samples for testing. If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)

Reply:

(1) The Government Laboratory (GL), including its Food Safety Laboratory, is currently short of laboratory area. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and GL have identified a suitable site for the construction of a new GL complex, and have consulted the relevant District Council (DC) earlier on. Having considered the views of the DC, we are revising the proposal and will consult the DC again. After we have completed the consultation and the technical assessments of the overall development plan, we will confirm the project details such as the project timetable and budget estimates.

(2) In face of the ever-increasing service demand and for the sake of optimising the use of resources, GL has been outsourcing some of the routine food testing work to private testing laboratories over the years so as to free its resources for development of testing methods, handling new testing work and developing chemical metrology work to enhance the testing

standards and capabilities of the laboratory sector. In the 2017-18 and 2018-19 financial years, GL outsourced 123 000 and 126 000 food tests respectively. In 2019-20, it is estimated that 124 000 food tests will be outsourced.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)250****(Question Serial No. 6498)**

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please specify the numbers and details of any visits to various District Councils (DCs) made and any district activities attended by the Secretary for Food and Health in the past 2 years.

District	DC Meetings Attended	District Visits Made	Community Activities Attended	Government Activities Attended
Central and Western	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Eastern	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Southern	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Wan Chai	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kowloon City	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kwun Tong	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sham Shui Po	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Yau Tsim Mong	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Wong Tai Sin	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Islands	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kwai	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:

District	DC Meetings Attended	District Visits Made	Community Activities Attended	Government Activities Attended
Tsing	Venue: Details:	Venue: Details:	Venue: Details:	Venue: Details:
North	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sai Kung	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sha Tin	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tai Po	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tsuen Wan	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tuen Mun	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Yuen Long	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 478)

Reply:

The Secretary for Food and Health visited 14 District Councils in the past 2 years. Details are as follows:

<u>District</u>	<u>Date</u>
Southern	29 August 2017
Wanchai	2 November 2017
Tuen Mun	12 December 2017
Tai Po	31 January 2018
Yuen Long	27 February 2018
Wong Tai Sin	23 April 2018
Tsuen Wan	2 May 2018
Islands	21 June 2018
Central and Western	25 July 2018
Kwai Tsing	13 November 2018
Kowloon City	29 January 2019
Kwun Tong	14 February 2019
Sai Kung	19 February 2019
North	13 March 2019

The Secretary for Food and Health attended various events organised by the Government and various organisations from time to time. We do not keep statistics on these activities by district and organiser.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)251

(Question Serial No. 7244)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the use of social networks, please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the expenditure and staff establishment involved for publicity efforts made via social networks by the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) in the past 3 years; and
- (2) the criteria adopted by the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) in assessing the effectiveness of these publicity efforts and the appropriateness of the use of the funds concerned.

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 91)

Reply:

- (1) In 2018-19, the Food and Health Bureau (Food Branch) spent \$648,000 on publicity via social networks. No expenditure was incurred in 2016-17 and 2017-18. No additional manpower was involved as the relevant duties were performed by existing staff.
- (2) We made reference to data such as hit rates, viewership and number of "Likes", responses to posts and related activities to assess the effectiveness of the publicity efforts and the appropriateness of the use of funds.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)252

(Question Serial No. 3404)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is mentioned under "Matters Requiring Special Attention" that the Government will continue to study the feasibility of reprovisioning and expanding the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory to enhance its testing capability and operational efficiency for tests relating to food safety. In this connection, please advise on the work progress made in 2018, the specific work plan and timetable for 2019, and the estimated manpower and resources required.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 77)

Reply:

The Government Laboratory (GL), including its Food Safety Laboratory, is currently short of laboratory area. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and GL have identified a suitable site for the construction of a new GL complex, and have consulted the relevant District Council (DC) earlier on. Having considered the views of the DC, we are revising the proposal and will consult the DC again. After we have completed the consultation and the technical assessments of the overall development plan, we will confirm the project details such as the project timetable and budget estimates. FHB and GL are handling the above-mentioned work with existing resources.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)253

(Question Serial No. 3405)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Environmental Hygiene

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Government will promote the application of technologies in the cleansing work of the environment, particularly targeting hygiene blackspots, and in mosquito and midge control as well as rodent control. Please advise on the relevant details as well as the manpower and estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been proactively applying technologies in the provision of environmental hygiene and pest control services through the use of machines and automation. The estimated expenditure in 2019-20 is about \$100 million. In addition to existing staff, dedicated staff will be assigned to explore technologies for trial use at suitable locations with a view to assessing their applicability and effectiveness before putting them to use in the territory. The estimated staff expenditure is about \$3.64 million. A summary of the technologies being used or piloted is provided at Annex .

There is no hard and fast definition of what a hygienic “black spot” is; the term is used to refer to an area where the cleanliness problem remains obstinate despite enhanced cleansing. Depending on the circumstances prevailing at individual locations, the Department will adjust the frequency of street washing and pest control operations and step up enforcement action as appropriate.

- End -

Application of Technologies in Enhancing Environmental Hygiene and Pest Control

(a) Internet Protocol (IP) cameras

The Department plans to extend the IP Camera scheme for 2 years and will progressively increase to over 300 locations upon consultation with relevant stakeholders and District Councils (DCs).

(b) Solar-powered aluminium refuse collection points (RCPs)

The Department is considering the introduction of solar-powered aluminium RCPs in rural areas. A trial is expected to be carried out in April 2019.

(c) 360 degrees cameras

In the light of the experience of a pilot scheme, FEHD will consult the relevant DCs on the installation of cameras at 15 coastal sites after completion of privacy impact assessment

(d) Mini-mechanical sweepers

Mini-mechanical sweepers have been used in street cleansing in Tai Po and Yuen Long districts. The Department will identify other suitable places for using the sweepers.

(e) Pressure washer surface cleaners and leaf blowers

Since July 2018, deployment of the above equipment for street cleansing have been included in all relevant service contracts upon renewal.

(f) Solar-powered compacting refuse bins (compacting bins)

The Department has conducted a trial use of compacting bins for household waste collection since February 2018. An improved design will be put on trial from April 2019.

(g) Gravitrapp

A gravitrapp includes a sticky trap to collect adult mosquitoes that can provide quantitative results by counting the actual number of mosquitoes collected. The Department will conduct field trial of gravitrapp in the third quarter of 2019.

(h) Night-vision cameras

Night vision cameras with artificial intelligence (AI) function are used to analyse the extent and severity of the rodent problem so as to formulate more targeted rodent control measures. Trial will be conducted in March 2019.

(i) Thermal imaging cameras

Thermal imaging cameras with AI function can identify rodents' movements and facilitate rodent surveillance. Trial will commence in March 2019.

(j) Real-time dengue vector surveillance

The Department is developing an imaging system with AI function for recognizing adult Aedes mosquitoes laying eggs in ovitraps. Trial will be conducted in December 2019.

(k) Nara Bloc and Spray

Nara Bloc is a new product that contains non-poisonous bait claimed to have better attractiveness to rodents. Nara Spray may be applied to rodenticides and rodent traps to increase their attractiveness to rodents in order to achieve better poisoning and trapping effects. Trial is being conducted and will be completed by December 2019.

(l) In2Care

The In2Care Mosquito Trap lures and contaminates female mosquitoes with an insect growth hormone when they lay eggs in the trap. The female mosquitoes spread the hormone to other breeding sites to kill the larvae. Field trials will be conducted in mid-2019 and completed in December 2019.

(m) Rodent trapping devices driven by pressurised gas (A24)

The trapping device uses compressed carbon dioxide gas for driving a striker to kill rodents that touch the trigger. Trial is being conducted.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)254

(Question Serial No. 7281)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- a. With the advancement of technology, the technology regarding alternatives to animal experimentation has become increasingly mature and reliable. Will the Government consider introducing legislation to ban the conduct of experiments on animals? If yes, what is the legislative timetable; if not, what are the justifications?
- b. Some animal rights groups have criticised that some provisions of the Ordinance, which was enacted as early as in 1963, have become very outdated, uncivilised and unnecessary. Will the Government consider amending the Ordinance, such as extending the scope of animal experimentation under control, so that it will no longer be limited only to those experiments "performed on an animal and calculated to give pain"?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

At present, animal experiments still play an important role in research areas such as understanding disease mechanisms as well as development and testing of new drugs, therapeutic methods and techniques. While non-living experimental techniques are becoming mature, they cannot completely replace animal experiments. In addition to issuing licences under the Animals (Control of Experiments) Ordinance (Cap. 340), the Department of Health also reminds the licensees in writing to observe the "Code of Practice for Care and Use of Animals for Experimental Purposes" published by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. The Code urges people who use animals for experimental purposes to treat the animals involved humanely, minimise the number of animals used and where possible, use non-animal alternatives. The Government will keep in view the latest developments and review the existing regulatory arrangements from time to time.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)255

(Question Serial No. 3970)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work to review and update local food safety standards, guidelines and regulatory arrangements, please advise on the following:

1. Are there any specific measures to address and plug the loopholes in the safety control of food imported by sea, land and air? If so, what are the details?
2. Will additional resources be allocated this year to improve the work related to food safety? If so, what are the details?
3. What are the legislative timetable for regulating harmful substances in food and updating the relevant standards, as well as details of the consultation exercise and the harmful substances to be regulated?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 67)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a task group, led by the Controller, CFS, to take forward the recommendations of the Audit Commission and the Legislative Council Public Accounts Committee concerning the work of CFS in food safety management and import control. The task group has commenced comprehensive reviews on CFS' operational manuals and guidelines, staff management and supervision arrangements, training requirements, and manpower and resource requirements. CFS has started to roll out concrete and effective short, medium and long term measures to enhance its effectiveness by phases, including updating guidelines where there were inadequacies or ambiguities, enhancing training and supervision of frontline staff, and strengthening staff's law enforcement mindset and the keeping of data and records. In 2019-20, 35 additional civil service posts will be created in CFS along with an additional provision of \$25 million to implement the reviews and the enhancement measures.

In addition, CFS already put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019.

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and CFS have been closely monitoring the international developments and measures relating to safeguarding food safety, including making reference to the food safety standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other economies, as well as taking into account the local dietary practice and risk assessment results, to timely update the local food safety standards and regulatory arrangements on the basis of scientific evidence. Upon completion of the legislative amendments to the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations last year, CFS has been working on proposals to update the regulatory regime of harmful substances in food, including mycotoxins and trans fat. FHB and CFS plan to conduct public consultation on the proposals in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)256

(Question Serial No. 3971)

Head: (139) Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau
(Food Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Safety

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food) (Philip YUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

On ensuring that food available for human consumption is safe:

1. After making amendments to the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations, did the Government take samples of leafy vegetables, rice and other food for testing? What was the number of samples taken in each of the categories? What were the number and details of samples containing excessive metallic contaminants?
2. What were the countries and cities/regions of origin of rice imported into Hong Kong in the past year? What were the respective quantities?
3. What was the percentage of rice imported from Vietnam in the past year? Did the Government take samples of rice from Vietnam for testing of containing excessive metallic contaminants? If so, what were the details?
4. What measures will be put in place to avoid false claims on places of origin of rice?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

The Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (the Amendment Regulations) was scrutinised and passed by the Legislative Council on 10 October last year. The Amendment Regulations will take effect for certain types of fresh food (i.e. fresh fruits and vegetables and their juices, fresh meat, poultry, edible offal of animals, aquatic animal and poultry eggs) on 1 November 2019, and for food types other than those mentioned above on 1 November 2020.

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) has adopted a risk-based approach to take food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels for testing, including testing the levels of metallic contaminants. From November 2018 (i.e. after the passage of the Amendment Regulations) to February 2019, CFS has taken more than 960 leafy vegetable samples, 270 rice samples and 5 270 other food samples for testing the levels of metallic contaminants. The test results showed that the levels of metallic contaminants of all samples except 9 were within the limits as prescribed in the Food Adulteration

(Metallic Contamination) Regulations (the Regulations). The 9 non-compliant cases included 5 crab samples, 2 fish samples and 2 leafy vegetable samples. CFS has made public the test results of the non-compliant cases and taken follow-up actions.

The import of rice to Hong Kong in 2018 is as follows:

Imported from	Amount of Imported Rice (tonnes)
Thailand	182 040
Vietnam	75 970
Mainland China	22 987
Others	44 691
Total	325 688

The levels of metallic contaminants of all rice samples imported from Vietnam in 2018 were within the limits as set out in the Regulations.

Under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, it is an offence for any person, in the course of trade, to supply, offer to supply, have in his possession for sale or for any purpose of trade or manufacture, any goods to which a false trade description (including a false place of origin) is applied. The Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) conducts surveillance and buys the products concerned in the market from time to time to verify if the trade descriptions on goods are correct, and maintains regular liaison with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). Where necessary, C&ED and FEHD conduct joint inspections to trace the source and origin of food so as to effectively combat the sale of food (including rice) to which a false place of origin is applied.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)257

(Question Serial No. 3742)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20 under Programme (3), one of them is to build up the capacity for testing of a number of equine diseases to facilitate the movement of competition horses between Hong Kong and the Conghua Equine-Disease Free Zone. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) Over the past 3 years, what were the numbers of competition horses transporting between Hong Kong and the Conghua Equine-Disease Free Zone that have undergone testing, as well as the numbers of posts, salaries and other related expenditures involved in the above work? What is the estimate for all the above items this year? In addition, is the expenditure on testing of competition horses fully borne by the Government?
- (b) Given that there is an increase in Hong Kong horse trainers using the Conghua racecourse as the main training base and the Conghua racecourse has started trying out horse racing, it is expected that there will be more competition horses moving between Hong Kong and Conghua in future. In this case, does the Government have any plan to increase the manpower and expenditure on the capacity for testing of a number of equine diseases in the light of the above trend in future? What are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC)'s Conghua Racecourse, located within the Conghua Equine Disease Free Zone, was officially opened in August 2018. Up to mid-March 2019, a total of 1 574 horses were transported between Hong Kong and Conghua Racecourse. Upon the full commissioning of Conghua Racecourse, it is estimated that around 700 to 1 200 horses will be transported per month. To safeguard the health of horses, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has devised a surveillance

programme for the movement of horses between Hong Kong and Conghua Racecourse. It established the Equine Disease Division in June 2017 for the provision of equine disease testing services. The expenditure and manpower involved in 2017-18 and 2018-19 are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)			Manpower (number of staff)
	Staff	Operation	Total	
2017-18	4.4	3.3	7.7	4
2018-19 (revised estimate)	6.7	5.6	12.3	4

The Government charges HKJC for conducting the equine disease testing services on a full cost recovery basis.

In 2019-20, AFCD will develop testing protocols for more equine diseases and conduct more testing having regard to the anticipated increase in horse movements between Hong Kong and Conghua Racecourse. The estimated expenditure and manpower earmarked for this work in 2019-20 are \$15.9 million and 4 staff respectively. AFCD will keep in view the development and review the resources requirement as necessary.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)258

(Question Serial No. 5582)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2018, the number of stray animals caught by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) was 3 151. What were the types of animals, manpower and expenditure involved? How did the Department handle them? What was the proportion of animals eventually euthanised, neutered and returned, released back to their habitats and rehomed? What was the expenditure involved in the above ways of handling?

In 2019, AFCD estimates that the number of stray animals to be caught is 3 200. How does the Department come up with such a figure? What types of animals does AFCD expect to catch? What are the manpower and expenditure involved? Is the number of stray animals caught a factor of the performance indicator for AFCD?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 413)

Reply:

Stray animals caught will be put in the Animal Management Centres (AMCs) for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days to allow time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary surgeon as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for adoption by members of the public. Only animals that are not suitable for adoption or not adopted at the end of the process will be euthanised.

The number and species of stray animals caught, animals given up by owners and received through other channels by AFCD, and the number and species of animals reclaimed by owners, re-homed and euthanised in 2018 are tabulated at the **Annex**.

Besides, AFCD has launched the “Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation” (CSR) programme for stray cattle in 2011, under which AFCD captures, sterilises and relocates stray cattle to remote locations, away from human settlements. In 2018, a total of 128, 105 and 80 stray cattle were captured, sterilised and relocated / returned respectively under the CSR programme. Moreover, AFCD assisted 2 AWOs in implementing the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) trial programme for stray dogs at the 2 trial sites in Cheung Chau and Yuen Long, which was completed in early 2018. A total of 102 dogs were neutered and returned to the 2 trial sites.

The expenditure and manpower involved in the management of stray animals, including catching operations and handling of stray animals caught as well as the CSR programme for stray cattle and the TNR programme for stray dogs, in 2018-19 are \$40.5 million and 195 staff respectively.

The estimated number and species of stray animals caught in 2019 are expected to be similar to that in 2018. With AFCD’s continuous implementation of measures on managing stray animals, the number of stray animals caught has decreased by 54% from 2014 to 2018. In 2019-20, we have earmarked \$38.3 million and 195 staff for this area of work.

- End -

Annex

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			Animals given up by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals re-homed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)259

(Question Serial No. 5585)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20 under this programme, the Government stated that it would implement the new agriculture policy to proactively support the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture, including preparing for the establishment of the Agricultural Park and overseeing the consultancy study on the designation of agricultural priority areas. Would the Government advise this Committee on the manpower and estimated annual salary expense involved in implementing the new agriculture policy in 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 418)

Reply:

A total of 49 staff involving a provision of \$26.8 million for staff cost have been earmarked for the implementation of the New Agriculture Policy in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)260

(Question Serial No. 3461)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the enforcement of the Rabies Ordinance over the past 3 years, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the expenditures and manpower involved?
- (b) What was the number of dog licences granted?
- (c) What were the respective expenditures involved in rabies vaccination in each year?
- (d) What were the number of prosecutions related to and the penalties for animal keepers abandoning their animals without reasonable excuse?
- (e) What were the number of prosecutions related to and the penalties for failing to keep dogs under proper control?
- (f) What were the respective numbers of dog bite cases received in each year?
- (g) Further to the above question, what were the respective numbers of dogs, cats and other animals put under observation for rabies at Animal Management Centres under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, veterinary clinics and keepers' homes?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure and manpower involved in the enforcement of the Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421) (the Ordinance) over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2016-17	30.4	187
2017-18	34.0	187
2018-19 (revised estimate)	36.9	188

- (b) Under the Rabies Regulation (Cap. 421A), a dog aged over 5 months is required to be licensed and vaccinated against this disease every 3 years. The number of dog licences issued over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of dog licences issued
2016	61 418
2017	61 368
2018	59 034

- (c) The expenditure on the procurement of anti-rabies vaccine over the past 3 years by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2016-17	0.4
2017-18	0.5
2018-19 (revised estimate)	0.9

- (d) and (e) Under Section 22 of the Ordinance, a keeper of any animal who abandons that animal without reasonable excuse is liable to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and to imprisonment for 6 months. In adducing evidence to substantiate a case under the aforementioned section, it is difficult for the prosecution to prove beyond reasonable doubt that a person abandons an animal without reasonable excuse, particularly in those cases where there is no witness. To tackle cases involving dogs, the prosecution may press charges against the dog owners concerned for failing to take proper control of their dogs in public places pursuant to Section 23 of the Ordinance. The maximum penalty for contravening this provision is a fine of \$10,000.

Information on the number of convictions under Section 23 of the Ordinance over the past 3 years and the relevant penalties are tabulated below.

Calendar year	Prosecution against improper control of dogs	
	Number of convicted cases	Heaviest penalty imposed
2016	174	A fine of \$4,000

2017	192	A fine of \$2,000
2018	140	A fine of \$1,500

- (f) The number of dog biting cases received over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of dog biting cases received
2016	1 408
2017	1 482
2018	1 354

- (g) The number of dogs and cats required to undergo rabies observation in AFCD's Animal Management Centres (AMCs), veterinary clinics and the keepers' homes over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	AMCs [#]		Veterinary clinics [#]		Keepers' homes [#]	
	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats
2016	204	15	0	0	391	2
2017	185	7	0	2	422	5
2018	169	12	0	0	383	2

[#] There is no case involving other animals that requires rabies observation.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)261****(Question Serial No. 3789)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (661) Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)Programme: (-) Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

The funding under Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote), amounting to \$44,034,000, has increased by 99.8% when comparing with the estimate of the previous year. In this regard, please advise on the following:

- (a) The major types of plant that will be purchased by using the additional estimate.
- (b) The depreciation situation of the existing plant and equipment.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)Reply:

- (a) The financial provision under Subhead 661 for 2019-20 is mainly for replacement / procurement of various systems and equipment, with breakdown as follows:

Systems and equipment to be replaced / procured	Financial provision for 2019-20 (\$ million)
(i) Patrol vessels and a hovercraft for patrol and law enforcement duties under various Ordinances as well as for red tide and water quality monitoring	33.851
(ii) Power supply and lighting system for wholesale food markets and the Hong Kong Wetland Park	5.685
(iii) Veterinary laboratory equipment and system for animal disease testing	4.165

Systems and equipment to be replaced / procured	Financial provision for 2019-20 (\$ million)
(iv) Global Navigation Satellite System survey receiver for country park management	0.333
Total	44.034

- (b) According to the Government's accounting policies, depreciation is provided on a straight line basis to amortise the costs or valuations of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives. Capital items purchased under Subhead 661 cover a wide spectrum of categories at different stages of their useful lives. Depreciation situation of these items varies greatly. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department does not have the breakdown of the depreciation of each and every capital item purchased under Subhead 661.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)262****(Question Serial No. 5763)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the "Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme" and the "Special Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme" of the Vegetable Marketing Organization, please provide the following information over the past 5 years (2014-2018):

(a) What were the expenditure breakdown and manpower involved in the said schemes?

	Expenditure breakdown (Hong Kong dollars)					Percentage of such expenditures to the overall expenditures of the schemes (%)				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Executives (Number of officers)										
Technical guidance (Number of officers)										
Improvement in irrigation, draining and other basic infrastructure										
Procurement of tractors for ploughing as well as other agricultural machines										
Other expenditures, please specify:										
Total										

(b) What were the respective numbers of applications and the area of land involved (hectare)? Which district(s) had the highest numbers of successful and pending cases?

- (c) What were the respective numbers of successful and unsuccessful cases?
- (d) What was the area of agricultural land successfully rented (hectare)?
- (e) How long did the processing of an application take on average (from receipt of an application to notification of the result)?
- (f) What were the numbers of landowners participating in the said schemes?
- (g) How much was the annual rental for the successful cases?
- (h) What were the accumulative numbers of applicants and the area of land involved (hectare) on the waiting list?

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of new applications					
Area of land involved (hectare)					
Number of successful applications					
Total area of land involved (hectare)					
Range of annual rental (per dau chung)					
Average waiting time (year)					
Number of applications on the waiting list as at year-end					
Area of land involved (hectare)					

- (i) The number of applications rose from 287 to 347 between 2015 and 2017. What countermeasures does the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) have in response to the growing demand for renting agricultural land every year? The number of successful applications dropped from 41 to 9 in the aforesaid period. What are the respective countermeasures?
- (j) It takes time for agricultural land to be rehabilitated, and the current tenure of the successful cases range from 3 to 5 years. Would AFCD consider advocating longer tenure?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 129)

Reply:

- (a) to (j) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) operates the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (ALRS) through bringing owners of farmland and interested farmers together to work out leasing agreements for the farmland. The manpower and expenditure involved in operating ALRS and the relevant statistics on the cases handled over the past 5 calendar years are tabulated below.

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of staff	1	1	1	1	1
Expenditure (\$ million)	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Number of landowners participating in ALRS	13	23	28	41	24
Number of new applications / land area involved (hectare)	44 / 8.9	45 / 8.0	65 / 8.3	58 / 8.7	77 / 8.1
Number of successful cases	12	41	29	9	10
- Total land area involved (hectare)	2.6	5.4	4.0	2.1	1.4
- Range of annual rental (per dau chung [^])	\$300 to \$7,000	\$800 to \$10,400	\$1,400 to \$32,100	\$160 to \$12,000	\$25 to \$60,000
- Average waiting time (year)	5	5	4	5.5	3.2
Number of applications on the waiting list as at year-end / land area involved (hectare)	278 / 72.6	287 / 70.6	300 / 67.6	347 / 74.7	413 / 81.0

[^] 1 dau chung is equivalent to 7 260 square feet.

The work mentioned in part (a) of the question is not related to ALRS, and is instead provided by AFCD as part of its support to the agriculture sector. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure and manpower involved.

Over the past 5 years, the North District had the highest number of successful cases, while Yuen Long had the highest number of pending cases.

Agricultural land in Hong Kong is mainly in private hands. It is up to landowners to decide whether to lease out their land for farming and to negotiate the terms of the lease agreement with the farmers, including the tenure. AFCD will continue to facilitate the leasing out of fallow farmland through ALRS, and provide farmers with technical advice and services to return fallow land to active farming. In addition, the Government has commissioned a consultancy study in late 2018 to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land as Agricultural Priority Areas, and explore suitable policies

and measures to encourage owners to put fallow agricultural land into long-term agricultural use.

The Special Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (SALRS) is a separate scheme proposed by the Government in relation to New Development Area projects. Under SALRS, the Government proactively identifies suitable government land and private land the owners of which are willing to lease or sell their land suitable for agricultural re-site / rehabilitation. AFCD will then carry out matching. Some government land in the North District has already been identified for application by farmers affected by the Kwu Tung North and Fanling North New Development Area project. The Government is now engaging the farmers concerned on the details of SALRS.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)263****(Question Serial No. 5765)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

- (a) What were the numbers of commercial rooftop farms across the territory over the past 5 years?

District	Number of commercial rooftop farms				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Central & Western					
Eastern					
Southern					
Wan Chai					
Kowloon City					
Kwun Tong					
Sham Shui Po					
Wong Tai Sin					
Yau Tsim Mong					
Islands					
Kwai Tsing					
North					
Sai Kung					
Sha Tin					
Tai Po					
Tsuen Wan					
Tuen Mun					
Yuen Long					

- (b) Regarding the various types of rooftop venues for growing food for sale, leasing out for individual farming, farm scheme commissioned by companies, what are their respective numbers? What sizes do they occupy respectively? If there is any type not included, please add to the following table.

	Types of farm					
	Commercial production (growing food for sale)		Leased farm (leasing out for individual farming)		Farm scheme of companies (for the purpose of staff welfare)	
District	Number	Area occupied (hectare)	Number	Area occupied (hectare)	Number	Area occupied (hectare)
Central & Western						
Eastern						
Southern						
Wan Chai						
Kowloon City						
Kwun Tong						
Sham Shui Po						
Wong Tai Sin						
Yau Tsim Mong						
Islands						
Kwai Tsing						
North						
Sai Kung						
Sha Tin						
Tai Po						
Tsuen Wan						
Tuen Mun						
Yuen Long						

- (c) Currently, does the Government provide any assistance to rooftop farms? If yes, in what way is the assistance rendered?
- (d) Studies reveal that urban farming can lower the temperature in cities and improve the air quality. Currently, is there any relevant monitoring system and data available?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 131)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Commercial production of agricultural produce is rarely carried out in rooftop farms in Hong Kong. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not have the information requested.

- (c) In supporting the local agriculture industry, AFCD provides technical assistance and advice, credit facilities and vocational training to local farmers; conducts adaptive and technical studies and introduces modern technology and practices to facilitate efficient production and improve the quality of agricultural products; and plans and implements effective management activities and services for promoting sustainable development of the agriculture industry. Like other farmers, rooftop farm operators may use the above services. More information on the work of AFCD in promoting and supporting the local agriculture industry can be found at www.afcd.gov.hk.
- (d) Monitoring the effect of urban farming on city temperatures is not part of AFCD's work in supporting the sustainable development of agriculture.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)264****(Question Serial No. 5777)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Would the Government set out the amounts of revenue from commissions received by the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) and the amounts of vegetables marketed through the wholesale market under VMO over the past 5 financial years? Please also provide the reasons for the increase or decrease in the said figures.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 143)Reply:

The commission income received by the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) from the sales of vegetables over the past 5 financial years is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Commission income (\$ million)
2014-15	61
2015-16	65
2016-17	51
2017-18	48
2018-19 (revised estimate)	46

The decrease in commission income is due to a reduction in volume of vegetables traded at the VMO wholesale market.

The volume of vegetables marketed through VMO in the past 5 calendar years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Volume (tonnes)
2014	129 164
2015	122 476
2016	106 591
2017	98 998
2018	88 609

The decrease in volume is due to keen competition from direct marketing of vegetables without going through the wholesale market.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)265****(Question Serial No. 5791)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (-) Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding its work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for which only some of the required information was provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

- (b) concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by AFCD for which the required information was not provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 176)Reply:

- (a) Among the requests under the Code on Access to Information (the Code) received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) from January to September 2018, there were 2 requests for which partial information was provided. The information sought is provided as follows:

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled
(1) Information on Dog Breeder Licences (Category A) and Dog Breeder Licences (Category B)	Having regard to paragraphs 2.15 and 2.16 of the Code, the withheld information was related to “privacy of the individual” and “business affairs”.	Other information sought was provided according to the time frame stipulated in the Code.
(2) Information on the case number and all relevant documents in connection with an enforcement action taken by AFCD in 2016	Having regard to paragraph 2.6(c) of the Code, the withheld information was “information which relates to proceedings which have been completed, terminated or stayed, or relates to investigations which resulted in or may have resulted in proceedings, whether any such proceedings are criminal or civil”.	AFCD received a request for review from the requestor. Having completed the internal review and sought legal advice, AFCD provided the requestor with some of the information which had not been disclosed previously. Other information sought was provided according to the time frame stipulated in the Code.

- (b) From January to September 2018, no request for information under the Code received by the Department was refused.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)266****(Question Serial No. 5795)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

- (a) Please provide the numbers of locally-operated hydroponic farms, their locations, distribution among districts, areas, total production areas, and respective zonings on the Outline Zoning Plan (such as Agriculture Zones, Green Belt, etc.) over the past year.

Location	District	Number	Area (hectare)	Total production area (hectare)	Zoning on the Outline Zoning Map
Agricultural Land					
Industrial Building					
Green Belt					
Others (please specify)					

- (b) Please provide the annual total weights and daily average weights of harvested and saleable hydroponic vegetables, as well as the annual total weights and daily average weights of the unsold hydroponic vegetables of the "Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre" (C.E.H. R&D Centre) over the past 5 years.
- (c) Please provide the expenditures and revenue by types, as well as the annual total retail volumes and annual total wholesale volumes of hydroponic vegetables of C.E.H. R&D Centre over the past 5 years.

- (d) Please provide the percentages of hydroponic vegetables in the total amounts of vegetable consumption in Hong Kong over the past 5 years.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Annual total weight of harvested and saleable hydroponic vegetables (kg)					
Daily average weight (kg)					
Annual total weight of unsold hydroponic vegetables due to promotion, dull sale and return (kg)					
Daily average weight (kg)					
Number of retail outlets					
Total expenditure (HK\$)					
Expenditure on electricity					
Expenditure on water					
Rental of premises					
Cost of materials (e.g. purchase of liquid fertiliser, etc.)					
Expenditure on manpower involved in administrative work and promotion (number of staff)					
Expenditure on manpower involved in management of production (number of staff)					
Others (please specify)					
Annual total retail volume of hydroponic vegetables (kg)					
Annual total wholesale volume of hydroponic vegetables (kg)					
Total revenue (HK\$)					
Total revenue from retail					
Total revenue from wholesale					
Percentage of hydroponic vegetables in the total amount of vegetable consumption in Hong Kong					

- (e) Please provide the amounts and major types of waste produced by the production of hydroponic vegetables by C.E.H. R&D Centre over the past 5 years.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Amount of waste produced by the production of hydroponic vegetables (kg)					

- (f) According to the information relating to the period from 2013-14 to 2017-18, the total expenditure of C.E.H. R&D Centre slightly decreased from \$1.9 million to \$1.4 million while the total revenue significantly decreased from \$900,000 to \$400,000. What mechanism would the Government adopt to assess the effectiveness of C.E.H. R&D Centre? What measures would the Government put in place to deal with the annual loss?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 180)

Reply:

- (a) Information on local hydroponic farms as at 31 December 2018 gathered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is tabulated at **Annex 1**.
- (b) to (d) In 2013, AFCD and the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) jointly set up the Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre (the Centre) for demonstrating hydroponic technology and facilities, with a view to facilitating technology transfer to the trade. The Centre was initially funded by VMO. As extra resources are essential to carry out additional research and development work, the operational expenditure of the Centre has been funded by the Government since April 2018. Currently, half of its floor area is used for production and the rest for research and development. The percentage of local production of hydroponic vegetable ranges from 0.07% to 0.10% of the total local consumption during 2014-2018. Other requested information provided by VMO is tabulated at **Annex 2**.
- (e) The major waste produced in the production of hydroponic vegetables by the Centre over the past 5 years is plant debris and used sponge materials. The Centre does not keep record of the amount of waste produced.
- (f) The Centre is not a profit-making commercial project but is meant to facilitate technology transfer through demonstration. During the past few years, the Centre has introduced 8 new vegetable varieties and collaborated with research institutes on testing innovative or improved technologies for introducing to the trade.

In recent years, hydroponic technology is getting well-developed. The number of hydroponic farms has been increasing since the establishment of the Centre. Currently, there are 40 local hydroponic farms producing annually over 650 tonnes of vegetables with an estimated value of \$122 million. The continuous growth and development of the hydroponic sector

has proven the effectiveness of establishing the Centre. AFCD and the Centre will continue to provide technical assistance to the hydroponic sector and keep in view its development.

- End -

**Distribution of local hydroponic farms
(as at 31 December 2018)**

Location	District	Number of farms	Area occupied (m ²)	Total production area (m ²)	Zoning on Outline Zoning Plan	
Agricultural Land	Yuen Long	11	53 070	16 320	Agriculture	
		1	11 000	6 000	Industrial	
		1	6 000	3 350	Village Type Development	
		1	3 500	2 500	Green Belt	
		1	2 500	2 000	Coastal Protection Area	
		2	200	300	Open Space	
		1	300	180	Open Storage	
		1	140	300	Government, Institution or Community	
	North	8	31 350	7 565	Agriculture	
		1	2 000	500	Green Belt	
	Sai Kung	1	18 500	1 850	Agriculture	
	Tuen Mun	1	6 000	2 000	Village Type Development	
	Industrial Building	Kwun Tong	2	195	120	Other Specified Use
		Yau Tong	1	45	85	Other Specified Use
Kwai Tsing		1	200	180	Other Specified Use	
		1	30	30	Industrial	
Tsuen Wan		1	330	450	Industrial	
Shatin		1	50	50	Industrial	
Tai Po		1	3 000	13 800	Other Specified Use	
Others	Sham Shui Po*	1	250	250	Residential	
	Causeway Bay [#]	1	20	10	Other Specified Use	

*The “Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre” is established and operated by the Vegetable Marketing Organization on a piece of land under a short-term tenancy which allows operation of a small vegetable factory.

[#] Commercial building

**Information on the Controlled Environment Hydroponic
Research and Development Centre**

Hydroponic vegetables produced

Financial year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (estimate)
Saleable Volume					
Total weight (kg)	8 379	6 061	3 329	2 881	2 717
Daily average weight	23	17	9	8	7
Unsold Volume (Including those used for promotional activities)					
Total weight (kg)	4 477	3 038	1 268	1 276	911
Daily average weight	12	8	3	3	2
Number of retail outlets	75	44	11	11	11

Income and expenditure

Financial year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (estimate)
Total expenditure* (\$ million)	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.4	3.1 [@]
Total revenue [^] (\$ million)	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.2
Total volume of marketed hydroponic vegetables [#]	3 902	3 023	2 061	1 605	1 806
Total / Daily average production volume of hydroponic vegetables	Refer to saleable volume in the above table				

* No separate breakdown on the expenditure and revenue by types

[^] Arising from marketed hydroponic vegetables

[#] No separate breakdown on the volume / revenue of wholesale and retail

[@] The increase in expenditure in 2018-19 is due to more government allocation in the manpower and recurrent expenditure to carry out research and development work.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)267

(Question Serial No. 6455)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What measures will the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department put in place to ensure that the fishing devices and practices used by local fishermen are complied with the regulation?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 354)

Reply:

To protect the marine environment and fisheries resources in Hong Kong waters, destructive fishing practices[#] are prohibited under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) (the Ordinance). Furthermore, fishing vessels have to be registered under the Ordinance in order to conduct fishing operations in Hong Kong waters, and fishing methods and gear of these vessels are regulated through conditions imposed under the Ordinance. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Marine Police conduct regular and targeted patrols and joint enforcement operations against illegal fishing activities (including destructive fishing practices) in Hong Kong waters. AFCD also publicises to local fishermen the need and importance of the protection of marine environment and compliance with the Ordinance by means of education materials such as leaflets and posters, and through regular liaison meetings with them.

[#] Destructive fishing practices include fishing with explosives, toxic substances, electricity-emitting appliances, suction devices, dredging devices, and trawling devices.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)268

(Question Serial No. 6457)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the wild cattle herds in the New Territories, does the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department monitor or record their condition?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 356)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) adopts a multi-pronged approach for managing stray cattle. AFCD conducts regular inspections to locations where cattle herds forage to monitor stray cattle's health condition. In addition, under the "Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation" (CSR programme) launched in late 2011, AFCD captures, sterilises and relocates stray cattle to remote locations, away from human settlements. Regular site visits and inspections are also carried out by AFCD to closely monitor the health condition of the relocated cattle. Veterinary care will be provided to the sick or injured ones as appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)269

(Question Serial No. 6458)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the following information related to the Advisory Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries (ACAF):

- (a) The number of meetings of ACAF and the attendance rate of its members last year.
- (b) The respective numbers of visits, local and overseas meetings, seminars and consultation forums that ACAF members participated or organised in the capacity of representatives of ACAF last year.
- (c) The number and content of proposals made by ACAF to the Government last year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 357)

Reply:

- (a) The Advisory Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries (ACAF) and its sub-committees (namely Crop Farming Sub-committee, Fisheries Sub-committee and Livestock Sub-committee) held a total of 17 meetings in 2018. The average attendance rate of members was 65%.
- (b) ACAF's Crop Farming Sub-committee members visited the proposed site for the establishment of the Agricultural Park (Agri-Park) in Kwu Tung South in July 2018.
- (c) In 2018, ACAF members advised the Government on a wide range of issues related to the sustainable development of agriculture and fisheries in Hong Kong, including the Agri-Park, branding of local agricultural and fisheries products, livestock industry, and the adoption of technology in open-sea mariculture.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)270****(Question Serial No. 6459)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the following information related to animal euthanasia:

- (a) The expenditure involved in animal euthanasia conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) last year and the estimated expenditure in this respect in 2019-20.
- (b) Please briefly illustrate the rationale behind AFCD's decisions on animal euthanasia.
- (c) Further to the above question, please set out the numbers of animal euthanasia conducted, types of animals euthanised and the reasons for animal euthanasia last year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 358)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on euthanasia of animals in 2018-19 and the estimated expenditure in 2019-20 are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure on euthanasia of animals (\$ million)
2018-19 (revised estimate)	1.3
2019-20 (estimate)	1.3

- (b) to (c) Stray animals caught will be put in the Animal Management Centres (AMCs) for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general,

these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days to allow time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary officer as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, AFCD will arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for adoption by members of the public as far as possible. Only animals that are not suitable for adoption or not adopted at the end of the process will be euthanized.

The number of animals euthanised in 2018 is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Animals euthanised			
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Total
2018	1 026	333	5 007	6 366

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

AFCD promotes the concept of responsible pet ownership and encourages adoption through partnering with AWOs to provide rehoming services. In the past 5 years, the number of dogs and cats euthanised by AFCD has dropped by around 70%.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)271

(Question Serial No. 3954)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Under which department(s) are the hydroponic vegetable farms located in industrial buildings or indoors currently administered? Under which legislation are they regulated?
- (b) Does the Government currently conduct any chemical or microbial testing on hydroponic vegetables? If yes, what kind(s) of testing is/are conducted? What are the numbers of samples and the findings of the testing? If not, what are the reasons? Would the Government explore the possibility of including more testing items?
- (c) How does the Government assist the public in verifying that the organic and hydroponic vegetables sold on the market are not ordinary vegetables?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1058)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) provides technical advice and support to investors who are interested in setting up hydroponic systems as an alternative option for agricultural production. Upon completion of a review on facilitating technology-based agricultural production in industrial buildings in 2017, the Town Planning Board (TPB) revised the definition of terms used in statutory plans and generally regards such use as "Non-polluting Industrial Use". Such use is always permitted in industrial buildings without the need for a separate application to TPB and in general does not contravene the "Industrial Purposes" as stipulated in the land lease.
- (b) As part of the technical support provided to local hydroponic farms, AFCD takes samples of produce from these farms for periodic testing on pesticides residues and certain pathogenic bacteria such as *Escherichia coli* O157, *Listeria monocytogenes*

and Salmonella spp. In 2018, AFCD tested 32 samples, among which 4 were found to have pesticide residues exceeding the relevant food safety standards. The concerned crops were not harvested for sale. The results for other samples were satisfactory. AFCD will continue to monitor the operation of local hydroponic farms and adjust the testing scope and frequency as necessary.

Like any other food for sale in Hong Kong, hydroponic produce must be fit for human consumption. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes vegetable samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels for pesticide residues, chemical analysis and microbiological testing under a risk-based approach. CFS does not have breakdown on the number and relevant testing results of local hydroponic produce among the vegetable samples it takes for food surveillance.

- (c) AFCD has put in efforts to enhance public awareness about the differences between organic and conventional vegetables. AFCD will continue to promote organic and hydroponic farming and the marketing of such produce through technical assistance to local farmers, joint efforts with the Vegetable Marketing Organization and the trade, as well as providing funding support through the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund to projects that promote organic education and certification.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)272

(Question Serial No. 4844)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

At present, how many hectares of agricultural land are available for rehabilitation? Is there any restriction on the size of land for which a person can apply for agricultural rehabilitation? What is the maximum size of land available for agricultural rehabilitation? How many people are on the waiting list? What is the average waiting time?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1520)

Reply:

Through the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department brings owners of farmland and interested farmers together to work out leasing agreements for the farmland. At present, about 9 hectares of agricultural land is available for leasing. There is no restriction on the size of farmland that may be rented. In 2018, the average waiting time for successful cases was 3.2 years. 413 applicants were on the waiting list as at end 2018.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)273

(Question Serial No. 4846)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past 5 years, what were the respective numbers of applicants for the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund? What were the respective numbers of applications successfully approved? What is the amount of surplus in the Fund?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1522)

Reply:

The \$500 million Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund has received a total of 40 applications since its inception in July 2014. So far, 14 applications have been approved, involving a total commitment of about \$77.3 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)274****(Question Serial No. 4847)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Over the past 5 years, how many applications were received and approved respectively regarding the lease of agricultural land under the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (the Scheme) by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department? What is the area of land leased out under the Scheme? What is the average waiting time for applicants? What is the number of waiting cases for leasing agricultural land at present?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1523)Reply:

The requested information is tabulated below.

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of new applications	44	45	65	58	77
Number of successful cases	12	41	29	9	10
- Land area involved (hectare)	2.6	5.4	4.0	2.1	1.4
- Average waiting time (year)	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.5	3.2
Number of applications on the waiting list as at year-end	278	287	300	347	413

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)275****(Question Serial No. 4848)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide the number of existing locally-operated hydroponic farms, their locations, distribution among districts, areas, total production areas, and respective zonings on the Outline Zoning Plan (such as Agriculture, Green Belt, etc.).

Location	District	Number	Area	Total production area	Zoning on the Outline Zoning Plan
Agricultural Land					
Industrial Building					

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1524)Reply:

Information on local hydroponic farms gathered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department as at 31 December 2018 is tabulated as follows:

Location	District	Number of farms	Area occupied (m ²)	Total production area (m ²)	Zoning on the Outline Zoning Plan
Agricultural Land	Yuen Long	11	53 070	16 320	Agriculture
		1	11 000	6 000	Industrial
		1	6 000	3 350	Village Type Development
		1	3 500	2 500	Green Belt
		1	2 500	2 000	Coastal Protection Area
		2	200	310	Open Space

Location	District	Number of farms	Area occupied (m ²)	Total production area (m ²)	Zoning on the Outline Zoning Plan
		1	300	180	Open Storage
		1	140	300	Government, Institution or Community
	North	8	31 350	7 565	Agriculture
		1	2 000	500	Green Belt
	Sai Kung	1	18 500	1 850	Agriculture
	Tuen Mun	1	6 000	2 000	Village Type Development
Industrial Building	Kwun Tong	2	195	120	Other Specified Use
	Yau Tong	1	45	85	Other Specified Use
	Kwai Tsing	1	200	180	Other Specified Use
		1	30	30	Industrial
	Tsuen Wan	1	330	450	Industrial
	Shatin	1	50	50	Industrial
	Tai Po	1	3 000	13 800	Other Specified Use
Others	Sham Shui Po [*]	1	250	250	Residential
	Causeway Bay [#]	1	20	10	Other Specified Use

* The “Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre” is established and operated by the Vegetable Marketing Organization on land under a short-term tenancy which allows operation of a small vegetable factory.

In commercial premises

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)276

(Question Serial No. 4851)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme implemented by the Government, please advise on:

- (a) The details of expenditure on implementing the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme, including the departmental manpower and expenditure involved; the numbers of applications for agricultural land rehabilitation, participating land owners, cases of successful matching, as well as the size of land involved in each case.
- (b) The number of new applicants for agricultural land rehabilitation, the cumulative number of applicants on the waiting list and the size of land involved.
- (c) The number of cases of successful matching, the details of size of land and rentals involved in each case, as well as the average and the longest waiting time.
- (d) Has the Government put in place any measure to increase the chance of successful matching and reduce the waiting time for agricultural land rehabilitation?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1527)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) operates the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (ALRS) through bringing owners of farmland and interested farmers together to work out leasing agreements for the farmland. The requested information on ALRS and the relevant statistics on the cases handled in 2018 are tabulated below.

Calendar year	2018
Number of staff	1
Expenditure (\$ million)	0.9
Number of landowners participating in ALRS	24
Number of new applications/land area involved (hectare)	77 / 8.1
Number of successful cases	10
- Total land area involved (hectare)	1.4
- Range of farm sizes of individual case (dau chung [*])	0.5 to 4.4
- Range of annual rental (per dau chung [*])	\$25 to \$60,000
- Average/longest waiting time (year)	3.2 / 4.5
Number of applications on the waiting list as at year-end / land area involved (hectare)	413 / 81.0

^{*} 1 dau chung is equivalent to 7 260 square feet.

Agricultural land in Hong Kong is mainly in private hands. It is up to landowners to decide whether to lease out their land for farming. AFCD will continue to facilitate the leasing out of fallow farmland through ALRS, and provide farmers with technical advice and services to return fallow land to active farming. In addition, the Government commissioned a consultancy study in late 2018 to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land as Agricultural Priority Areas, and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage owners to put fallow agricultural land into long-term agricultural use.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)277****(Question Serial No. 6837)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please provide the numbers of animals which were caught, rehomed and euthanised by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) as well as their average periods of stay at the facilities of AFCD before being euthanised and rehomed, with a breakdown by type, over the past 5 years.
- (b) Please provide the numbers of animals which were caught with animal traps by AFCD with a breakdown by types of animal traps used and animals caught over the past 5 years.
- (c) Please provide the numbers of animals which died due to the use of animal traps with a breakdown by types of animal traps used and animals dead over the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1529)

Reply:

- (a) The number and species of animals handled by the Animal Management Centres (AMCs) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 5 years are tabulated at the **Annex**.

The average period that the received animals were kept by the 4 AMCs over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Average period kept in AMCs (days)		
	Dogs	Cats	Others [^]
2014	8.8	9.4	31.2
2015	9.5	9.7	15.5

Calendar year	Average period kept in AMCs (days)		
	Dogs	Cats	Others [^]
2016	10.9	13.0	53.8
2017	13.1	13.0	65.8
2018	20.1	17.6	29.8

[^] Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

(b) The requested information is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of animals caught with animal traps				
	Dogs (by cage / snare)	Cats (by cage)	Pigeons (by cage)	Monkeys (by cage / snare)	Wild pigs (by cage, net or dart gun)
2014	101/404	1 406	238	533/25	12
2015	159/142	1 009	473	454/14	28
2016	76/118	564	218	521/31	59
2017	118/103	475	273	291/28	106
2018	40/102	299	0	195/29	197

Note: The management of wild animals fall under the policy purview of the Environment Bureau.

(c) Over the past 5 years, no animal died due to the use of animal traps during the catching operations conducted by AFCD.

- End -

Annex

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			Animals given up by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals re-homed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2014	3 676	1 836	1 374	1 464	132	28	809	78	656	1 235	576	253	679	212	75	3 868	1 039	1 594
2015	2 412	1 359	1 418	1 284	129	109	378	73	3 590	774	626	11	651	168	83	2 421	696	3 469
2016	1 919	876	1 494	1 003	107	56	343	70	674	637	400	1	513	136	92	1 814	449	748
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204	560	269	10	588	67	94	1 478	381	801
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904 [#]	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007 [#]

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

[#] The increased numbers were mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)278****(Question Serial No. 6996)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF) is designed to support practical, application-oriented projects, schemes or research work that would help farmers enhance their productivity and output, as well as contribute to fostering the sustainable development and enhancing the overall competitiveness of the agricultural industry. As at end-February 2019:

- (a) How many applications has the Government received? Among which how many have been approved? What is the average time required for approving each application?
- (b) Regarding the approved projects, please set out the following information: the amounts granted, the applicant organisations, whether commercial element is involved and the benefits brought to Hong Kong's agriculture industry (such as enhancing farmers' productivity/output/reducing the impacts of the agriculture industry on the environment/increasing the self-sufficiency rate of local foodstuff, etc.).

Name of project	Applicant organisation	Nature of the organisation (body corporates, local academic and research institutions, individual farmers)	Amount granted	Whether commercial element is involved	Benefit(s) brought to Hong Kong's agriculture industry

- (c) The number of cases pending assistance under the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme stands at 300, which shows that there is quite an amount of people aspiring to a farming career. If one of SADF's objectives is to enhance farmers' output, would the Government inject funding to provide more agricultural land or assist those people who aspire to become farmers in setting up their farms? If yes, what are the plans? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7806)

Reply:

- (a) As at 1 March 2019, a total of 249 applications seeking financial assistance for individual farms to acquire farming equipment and/or materials from the Farm Improvement Scheme (FIS) under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF) have been received. 238 applications have been approved, involving a total funding commitment of about \$7 million. 3 applications have been rejected and 4 applications withdrawn. The rest are being processed. Generally, the processing of FIS applications would be completed within 8 weeks, subject to timely provision of the necessary documents and availability of the farmers in arranging farm inspections.

In addition, a total of 34 applications seeking funding support for projects that will benefit the local agricultural industry as a whole have been received. Among them, 7 applications have been approved and 7 rejected on the advice of the SADF Advisory Committee, 3 withdrawn by the applicants, 1 returned to the applicant (for further supplement / re-submission if necessary) and 3 found to be ineligible to apply for the fund. The other applications are being processed. The average time required for approving an application is about 13 months, including the time taken for the applicant to provide supplementary information in response to enquiries of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and members of the SADF Advisory Committee.

- (b) Details of the approved SADF projects are at the **Annex**.
- (c) Agricultural land in Hong Kong is mainly in private hands. It is up to landowners to decide whether to lease out their land for farming. AFCD will continue to facilitate the leasing out of fallow farmland through the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme, and provide farmers with technical advice and services to return fallow land to active farming. In addition, the Government commissioned a consultancy study in late 2018 to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land as Agricultural Priority Areas, and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage owners to put fallow agricultural land into long-term agricultural use. Furthermore, SADF may provide funding to projects facilitating landowners to release their farmland and promoting rehabilitation of fallow agricultural land through improvement of agricultural infrastructures.

- End -

Approved projects under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund as at 1 March 2019

Item	Project*	Applicant organisation	Nature of the organisation	Grant approved (\$ million)	Benefit(s) brought to Hong Kong's agriculture industry (based on the project proposals)
1	Development of sustainable organic fertilisers for output maximisation of outdoor and indoor plant factories	City University of Hong Kong	Local academic and research institution	2.8	The project aims to develop organic fertilisers for use by crop farmers enhancing their productivity, which will benefit about 4 300 local crop farmers.
2	Management and operation of the Organic Certification System and its support initiatives	Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre Certification Limited	Body corporate	15.0	The project aims to implement and maintain the operation of a simplified organic certification system in Hong Kong on organic farming and increase the number of farmers to take part in organic certification, benefitting about 300 local crop farmers.
3	Promotion of local organic agriculture and image-building of professional organic certification	Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre)	Local academic and research institution	14.9	The project aims to deepen the public's understanding in local organic agriculture and organic certification service as well as assist organic farmers in establishing local organic agriculture brands to capture market niches, benefitting about 4 300 local crop farmers and the public at large.

Item	Project*	Applicant organisation	Nature of the organisation	Grant approved (\$ million)	Benefit(s) brought to Hong Kong's agriculture industry (based on the project proposals)
4	Comprehensive support and promotion scheme for agriculture	The Federation of Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Societies, Limited	Agricultural co-operative society	14.1	The project aims to provide farmers with agricultural resources, support for agricultural operations and organic certification support services as well as quality organic seedlings and seeds, which enhance the farmers' efficiency in their daily operations and to assist them in achieving economy in their operating expenditure, benefitting about 300 local crop farmers. The operation of a farmers' market in Tai Po will also benefit the public at large.
5	Improving pig health and production in Hong Kong	City University of Hong Kong (School of Veterinary Medicine)	Local academic and research institution	15.0	The project aims to identify the major constraints on pig health and production in Hong Kong and to develop interventions that will result in improved productivity, pig welfare, food safety and monitoring for early warning of new and emerging zoonotic diseases etc. Based on the needs of individual pig farms, a tailored pig health and production management service programme will be delivered to the farms, benefitting 43 local pig farms.

Item	Project*	Applicant organisation	Nature of the organisation	Grant approved (\$ million)	Benefit(s) brought to Hong Kong's agriculture industry (based on the project proposals)
6	Improving poultry health and production in Hong Kong	City University of Hong Kong (School of Veterinary Medicine)	Local academic and research institution	15.0	The project aims to identify the major constraints on poultry health and production in Hong Kong and to develop interventions that will result in improved productivity, poultry welfare, food safety and monitoring for early warning of new and emerging zoonotic diseases etc. Based on the needs of individual poultry farms, a tailored poultry health and production management service programme will be delivered to the farms, benefitting 29 local poultry farms.
7	Technology demonstration project on application of advanced sewage treatment technologies for local pig farms	Hong Kong Productivity Council	Body corporate	5.0	The project aims to devise and construct an advanced and automated sewage treatment demonstration system in order to enhance sewage treatment technologies, benefitting 43 local pig farms.
Total				81.8	

*None of the 7 projects above involves commercial element.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)279****(Question Serial No. 4227)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

What were the respective numbers of stray cats and dogs caught by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in each year, and the respective numbers of stray cats and dogs euthanised over the past 5 years?

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 53)Reply:

The requested information is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Stray dogs and cats caught		Stray dogs and cats euthanised	
	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats
2014	3 676	1 836	2 406	939
2015	2 412	1 359	1 424	605
2016	1 919	876	1 039	380
2017	1 566	674	762	325
2018	1 235	547	512	271

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)280****(Question Serial No. 4192)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please set out the quantities, the value and wholesale price of fresh marine fish and live fish traded through the wholesale fish markets under the Fish Marketing Organization, as well as the quantities of fresh marine fish and live fish returned and the reasons over the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1085)Reply:

Information on the quantities, value and wholesale price of fresh marine fish and live marine fish traded through the wholesale fish markets under the Fish Marketing Organization over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Fresh marine fish			Live marine fish		
	Weight (tonne)	Value (\$ million)	Average wholesale price (\$/kg)	Weight (tonne)	Value (\$ million)	Average wholesale price (\$/kg)
2014	35 380	1,896	54	10 050	1,039	103
2015	36 015	2,117	59	10 415	1,097	105
2016	35 320	2,236	63	10 670	1,156	108
2017	34 419	2,410	70	10 601	1,280	121
2018	33 487	2,498	75	10 338	1,164	113

There was no fish returned over the past 5 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)281

(Question Serial No. 4193)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Please set out the expenditures and numbers of staff of the department responsible for the supervision of credit unions and co-operative societies, the numbers of applications approved and the average successful rates each year over the past 5 years.
- (b) Please provide details in tabular form the name list of the current credit unions and co-operative societies.

Date of establishment	Name of credit unions and co-operative societies	Number of members	Name list of members

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1086)

Reply:

- (a) The Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation is the Registrar of co-operative societies and credit unions. Currently there are 173 and 44 registered co-operative societies and credit unions respectively. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has a dedicated team to maintain the registries for the co-operative societies and credit unions, including inviting and processing new applications for establishing such entities, examining annual filings submitted by registered co-operative societies and credit unions, conducting regular site inspections and auditing their books, and providing advice on the regulations under the law. The requested information is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)	Number of applications approved	Average successful rates
2014-15	12.3	25	0	Not applicable
2015-16	12.6	25	0	Not applicable
2016-17	14.1	26	0	Not applicable
2017-18	13.3	26	2	100%
2018-19	12.5	26	0	Not applicable

(b) The information requested* is set out as follows:

(i) Credit Unions

Item	Date of establishment	Name of credit unions	Number of members
1	27/5/2009	Amwal Credit Union	21
2	22/9/2008	Asian Migrants Credit Union	234
3	23/6/1986	Chinese University of Hong Kong Employees' Credit Union	2 077
4	1/9/1970	Choi Hung Estate Holy Family Credit Union	49
5	12/6/1991	Correctional Services Department Credit Union	6 114
6	15/8/1970	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Credit Union	4 155
7	14/3/2001	Elite Credit Union	276
8	5/7/2004	Fanling Wah Ming Estate Credit Union	58
9	1/10/1970	Government Supplies Staff Credit Union	582
10	18/2/1994	HIT Credit Union	1 134
11	9/11/1982	Hong Kong Caritas Staff Credit Union	131
12	1/9/1970	Hong Kong Cathedral Credit Union	137
13	22/11/2016	Hong Kong Enterprise Credit Union	23
14	18/12/2013	Hong Kong Money Service Operators Credit Union	17
15	1/10/1970	Hong Kong Observatory Credit Union	166
16	7/7/1992	Hong Kong Playground Association Staff Credit Union	109
17	2/11/1981	Hong Kong Police Credit Union	43 615
18	30/11/1978	Independent Commission Against Corruption Credit Union	788
19	23/6/1976	Junk Bay Credit Union	18
20	1/8/1970	Labour Department Staff Credit Union	934
21	7/7/1978	Marine Department Staff Credit Union	231
22	14/5/1980	Metro Credit Union	14 639
23	1/9/1970	Mother of Good Counsel Credit Union	124
24	30/6/1972	Mutual Trust Credit Union	96
25	27/10/1982	New Territories Treatment Works Staff	232

Item	Date of establishment	Name of credit unions	Number of members
		Credit Union	
26	13/4/1971	Oi Tack Credit Union	72
27	18/2/1976	PCCW Credit Union	11 558
28	1/9/1970	People's Effort Credit Union	117
29	12/11/2009	Rainbow Credit Union	235
30	30/6/1977	Sheung Shui Credit Union	249
31	4/11/1971	Social Welfare Department Credit Union	487
32	1/9/1970	St. Anthony's Credit Union	29
33	30/3/1984	St. Bonaventure's Church Credit Union	488
34	1/8/1970	St. Camillus Credit Union	35
35	1/9/1970	St. Francis Credit Union	160
36	1/9/1970	St. John's Credit Union	133
37	1/9/1970	St. Lawrence Credit Union	32
38	1/10/1970	St. Vincent Credit Union	448
39	23/4/1998	Star of the Sea Church Credit Union	279
40	3/2/2015	Sun Credit Union	83
41	8/9/1972	The Hong Kong League Central Credit Union	208
42	25/7/2008	University Credit Union	114
43	1/3/1971	Wah Fu Estate Credit Union	36
44	23/5/1973	Water Supplies Department Staff Credit Union	2 051

(ii) Co-operative Societies

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
(a) Fisheries			
1	6/8/1964	Ma Wan Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	18
2	27/3/1958	Shau Kei Wan Deep Sea Capture Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
3	14/7/1959	Shau Kei Wan Pair Trawler Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
4	10/4/1969	St. Andrews' Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Ltd.	207
5	30/9/1970	Tai Po Sam Mun Tsai Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	36
6	11/12/1953	The Aberdeen Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	12

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
7	26/3/1957	The Aberdeen Mechanized Conger Pike Small Long Liner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	12
8	18/3/1958	The Aberdeen Mechanized Gill Net Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	12
9	7/4/1960	The Ap Chau Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	48
10	28/7/1964	The Ap Lei Chau Small Long Liner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	14
11	20/9/1955	The Castle Peak Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	11
12	15/7/1965	The Castle Peak Mechanized Trawler Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	14
13	27/11/1963	The Cheung Chau Mechanized Gill Net Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	13
14	26/5/1954	The Cheung Chau Purse Seiner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	8
15	28/10/1957	The Cheung Chau Sai Wan Mechanized Purse Seiner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
16	2/5/1960	The Federation of Fishermen's Co-operative Societies of Sai Kung District, Limited	5
17	21/3/1960	The Federation of Fishermen's Co-operative Societies of Shau Kei Wan District, Limited	5
18	21/3/1960	The Federation of Fishermen's Co-operative Societies of Southern District, Limited	10
19	26/3/1959	The Federation of Fishermen's Co-operative Societies of Tai Po District, New Territories Limited	10
20	28/5/1969	The Hang Hau Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	65
21	30/3/1954	The Kau Sai Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	14
22	12/4/1960	The Kau Sai Mechanized Small Long Liner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
23	17/3/1959	The Leung Shuen Wan Fisherman's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	13
24	21/10/1954	The Mui Wo and Cheung Chau Purse Seiner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	14
25	10/11/1954	The Po Toi Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	9

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
26	8/5/1962	The Sai Kung District Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	20
27	21/3/1953	The Sai Kung Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	12
28	24/11/1958	The Sai Kung Small Long Liner and Gill Net Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	13
29	4/6/1986	The Sai Kung St. Peter's Ming Shun Village Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	126
30	1/3/1989	The Sai Kung Tai Ping Village Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	124
31	26/8/1959	The Sha Tau Kok Small Long Liner and Gill Net Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	11
32	28/7/1953	The Shau Kei Wan (Cheung Chau) Trawler Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	12
33	16/5/1960	The Shau Kei Wan (Shek Miu) Mechanized Small Long Liner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
34	3/5/1961	The Shau Kei Wan Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
35	22/4/1998	The Shau Kei Wan Stern Trawler Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	14
36	9/6/1953	The Shau Kei Wan Trawler Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	28
37	29/3/1954	The Stanley Purse Seiner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
38	11/1/1961	The Tai O Sha Chai Min Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	17
39	18/5/1965	The Tai Po Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	111
40	15/9/1952	The Tai Po Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
41	30/4/1959	The Tai Po Hand Liner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	13
42	20/7/1953	The Tai Po Hoklo Fishermen's Credit and Housing Co-operative Society, Unlimited	12
43	29/8/1960	The Tai Po Purse Seiner and Small Long Liner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	13
44	20/3/1957	The Tai Po Sham Wan Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	11

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
45	11/2/1958	The Tai Po Shrimp Trawler Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	12
46	6/6/1963	The Tai Po Trawler Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
47	2/6/1965	The Tap Mun Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	78
48	16/10/1959	The Tap Mun Purse Seiner Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	10
49	23/8/1994	The Tsing Yi St. Paul Village Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	45
50	2/4/1962	The Tsuen Wan Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	53
51	20/10/1954	The Tsuen Wan Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	14
52	4/5/1961	The Tuen Mun Mechanized Fishing Boat Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	38
53	5/8/1953	The Yeung Kong Fishermen's Credit Co-operative Society, Unlimited	11
54	5/12/1967	The Yuen Long Shan Pui Chung Hau Village Better Living Co-operative Society, Ltd.	103
55	16/11/1981	The Yung Shu Wan Fishermen's Better Living Co-operative Society, Limited	24

(b) Agriculture

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
56	13/10/2017	New Territories Local Farmers Organic Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society Limited	10
57	1/12/1954	The Castle Peak District Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	79
58	11/12/1959	The Cheung Chau Pig Raising Co-operative Society, Limited	42
59	25/6/1968	The Cheung Chau Round Table Third Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	48
60	17/5/1963	The Cheung Chau Shun Yee Second Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	36
61	20/4/1967	The Cheung Chau Shun Yee Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	52
62	23/3/1955	The Fanling Kwun Ti Village Farmers' Irrigation Co-operative Society, Limited	23
63	31/7/1951	The Fanling Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	45

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
64	1/5/1973	The Federation of Pig Raising Co-operative Societies of Hong Kong, Kowloon and New Territories, Limited	9
65	7/3/1953	The Federation of Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Societies, Limited	26
66	15/7/1959	The Fung Kat Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	168
67	7/1/1962	The Ha Tsuen Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	390
68	1/3/1961	The Hong Kong Round Table Association Cheung Chau Residents' Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	102
69	3/8/1955	The Hung Shui Kiu Pig Raising Co-operative Society, Limited	61
70	28/5/1954	The Hung Shui Kiu Tin Sai Pig Raising Co-operative Society, Limited	44
71	20/11/1953	The Hung Shui Kiu Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	277
72	3/2/1960	The Kam Tin Heung, Sha Po, Ng Villagers' Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	62
73	6/4/1955	The Kam Tin Ng Ka Tsuen Pig Raising Co-operative Society, Limited	46
74	2/9/1957	The Koon Lam Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	223
75	31/3/1952	The Ku Tung Vegetable Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	217
76	20/12/1952	The Kwan Ti Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	52
77	19/11/1960	The Lam Ti Agricultural Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	34
78	16/6/1980	The Lau Fou Shan Pig Raising Co-operative Society, Limited	59
79	16/4/1966	The Lung Chau Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	33
80	9/7/1962	The Ma On Shan Lutheran New Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	23
81	27/11/1962	The Ma Tso Lung Lutheran New Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	64
82	26/7/1965	The Mai Po Lung Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	39
83	28/12/1953	The Mui Wo Agricultural Products Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	56
84	15/12/1964	The Mui Wo Pig Raising Co-operative Society, Limited	36

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
85	27/10/1964	The Ng Ka Tsuen Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	51
86	12/5/1961	The Pat Heung Vegetable Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	289
87	30/12/1961	The Ping Che Vegetable Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	165
88	18/3/1955	The Ping Shan District Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	88
89	2/5/1963	The Sai Kung Pak Shek Wo New Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	20
90	9/12/1959	The Sai Kung Sun On Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	459
91	30/7/1965	The Shan Tong Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	216
92	23/1/1959	The Shek Kong Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	134
93	27/12/1951	The Sheung Shui Vegetable Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	177
94	30/12/1953	The Sun Tin Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	365
95	18/11/1953	The Sun Yau Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	317
96	23/7/1960	The Sung Ching Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	26
97	20/3/1953	The Ta Ku Ling Vegetable Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	50
98	6/8/1955	The Tai Po Kau Pig Feed and Fertilizer Purchasing Co-operative Society, Limited	26
99	4/6/1959	The Tai Po Kau Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	32
100	29/9/1951	The Tai Po Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Ltd	38
101	22/5/1956	The Tsiu Keng Vegetable Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	161
102	6/7/1965	The Tsuen Wan Sum Tsang Pai Min Kok Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	23
103	19/9/1953	The Tsun Wan Vegetable Marketing and Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	46
104	29/7/1968	The Tuen Mun Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	48
105	24/10/1955	The Tung Chung Agricultural Products Marketing & Credit Co-operative Society, Limited	78

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
106	24/3/1954	The Un Long Sung Ching San Tsuen Pig Raising Co-operative Society, Ltd	72
107	17/9/1963	The Yuen Long Small Traders New Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	134
108	29/4/1957	The Yuen Long Vegetable Marketing Co-operative Society, Limited	79
109	23/2/1966	The Yuen Long Wah Shing Village Better Living Co-operative Society Limited	48
(c) Others			
Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
110	6/11/1956	Anhui Street Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
111	8/6/1998	Chai Wan Police Married Quarters Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	387
112	14/11/1956	Concurrent Co-operative Building Society, Limited	12
113	21/4/2006	Coop DecorLine Workers Co-operative Society, Limited	10
114	20/4/1999	Fire Services Married Quarters Tseung Kwan O Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	256
115	10/12/2001	Fung Shing Discipline Service Married Quarters Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	254
116	30/11/1957	Good Luck Mansion Co-operative Building Society, Limited	30
117	27/11/1956	Happy Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
118	6/7/2004	Hoi Wang House Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	9
119	24/9/1957	Hong Yee Co-operative Building Society, Limited	20
120	2/6/2004	Joined-hand Women Worker Co-operative Society, Limited	10
121	1/11/2005	Kwan Fong Escorting Service Workers Co-operative Society, Limited	12
122	21/5/2007	Lai King Disciplined Services Quarters Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	176
123	29/10/1956	Maidstone Co-operative Building Society, Limited	30
124	23/5/1958	Mansion Co-operative Building Society, Ltd.	20
125	14/12/1956	Mataukok Co-operative Building Society, Limited	12
126	12/2/1957	Okay Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
127	24/12/1956	Pak Kung Street Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
128	2/12/1968	Pokfield Garden Co-operative Building Society, Limited	72
129	22/10/1957	Salim Co-operative Building Society, Limited	20
130	3/4/1996	Sheung Shui Police Married Quarters Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	337
131	25/2/1957	Sincerity Co-operative Building Society, Limited	34
132	10/2/1958	Success Co-operative Building Society, Ltd	12
133	2/2/1957	Tai Chung Co-operative Building Society Limited	20
134	9/6/2017	Taste.Soil Workers Co-operative Society, Limited	10
135	3/3/1969	The Aberdeen Co-operative Building Society, Limited	15
136	28/6/1960	The Acme Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
137	30/9/1953	The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Staff Thrift and Loan Co-operative Society, Limited	231
138	8/12/1956	The Amity Co-operative Building Society, Ltd.	20
139	14/9/1971	The Arch Court Co-operative Building Society, Limited	36
140	28/12/1961	The Ascot Co-operative Building Society, Limited	24
141	11/12/1961	The Bonnie Co-operative Building Society, Limited	12
142	7/11/1956	The Comfort Co-operative Building Society, Ltd	20
143	9/2/1961	The Felix Co-operative Building Society, Limited	12
144	11/12/1959	The Fish and Vegetable Marketing Organizations Staff Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	223
145	26/8/1960	The Fraternity Co-operative Building Society, Limited	20
146	19/4/1960	The Friends Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
147	12/6/1961	The Good Hope Co-operative Building Society, Limited	18
148	12/6/1961	The Kinney Co-operative Building Society, Limited	20
149	16/2/1962	The Lily Garden Co-operative Building Society, Limited	18

Item	Date of establishment	Name of co-operative societies	Number of members
150	25/8/1960	The Lung Wa Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
151	2/10/1961	The Magnolia Garden Co-operative Building Society, Limited	15
152	30/10/1959	The Maine Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
153	25/8/1960	The Mayfair Co-operative Building Society, Limited	12
154	28/5/1958	The Peace Co-operative Building Society, Ltd.	12
155	15/8/1960	The Peerless Co-operative Building Society Limited	20
156	10/12/1956	The Popular Co-operative Building Society, Ltd.	40
157	4/5/1957	The Shaukiwan Co-operative Building Society, Ltd	18
158	15/12/1960	The Sinclair Co-operative Building Society, Limited	20
159	4/3/1960	The Siu Yuen Co-operative Building Society, Limited	12
160	31/10/1957	The Snughome Co-operative Building Society, Ltd	10
161	14/2/1961	The Splendid Co-operative Building Society, Limited	20
162	9/1/1959	The Sweethome Co-operative Building Society Limited	10
163	8/10/1958	The Sycamore Co-operative Building Society, Limited	20
164	2/6/1961	The Tai Wah Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
165	15/9/1958	The Universal Co-operative Building Society, Ltd.	10
166	19/6/1959	The Valley Co-operative Building Society, Ltd.	15
167	2/11/1960	The Yick Kwan Co-operative Building Society, Limited	10
168	10/1/1996	Tsing Yi Junior Police Officers Married Quarters Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	214
169	16/10/1956	Union Co-operative Building Society, Limited	15
170	6/8/2004	United Women Workers Co-operative Society, Limited	10
171	10/5/2007	Women's Healthy Living Workers Co-operative Society, Limited	21
172	7/6/1999	Wong Tai Sin Disciplined Services Quarters Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited	395
173	4/3/1958	Y Hing Co-operative Building Society, Ltd.	12

* Due to privacy reason, the names of individual members of credit unions and co-operative societies are not disclosed.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)282

(Question Serial No. 4999)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Regarding the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) and the North East New Territories NDAs, in view of the vast amount of stray animals bound to appear due to the demolition works to be conducted there in the next few years, please advise on whether the Government would allocate more manpower and financial resources to the animal management initiatives carried out in those areas and other areas with development projects, or even the rural area as a whole (so as to save as many animals as possible and administer less euthanasia during the development)? If yes, please set out the way(s) in which such resources would be utilised. If not, please illustrate the reasons.
- (b) What were the respective numbers of prosecutions instituted against the public under the Dogs and Cats Ordinance, the Rabies Ordinance and the Pounds Ordinance over the past 5 years? (Please set out the respective offence(s) and numbers of prosecutions.) Please also illustrate the specific difference(s) in the application of these 3 Ordinances.
- (c) What were the respective numbers of animals sold by private treaties or public auctions as published in the Gazette under section 4 of the Pounds Ordinance over the past 5 years?
- (d) Does the Government have the latest data on the number of animals since the Thematic Household Survey Report No. 48 compiled in 2010? Does the Government plan to conduct the relevant survey again in the next year or in the foreseeable future? If the latest data is available, please provide the most updated numbers of cats and dogs kept by households by districts (by District Council constituency areas). In any case, please provide the numbers of cats and dogs kept by households in 2010 by districts (by District Council constituency areas) on the basis of the said Report.

- (e) What were the total numbers of dogs neutered and registered as well as the total numbers of cats neutered over the past 5 years?
- (f) What were the respective ratios of different animals (cats, dogs and others) eventually rehomed by the public at the 4 animal management centres of the Government over the past 3 years? (12 figures per year, 36 figures in total)

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2030)

Reply:

- (a) With regard to animals affected by the New Development Areas, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will provide assistance to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) which are interested in operating adoption centres. AWOs in need of premises running the re-homing centres may consider the suitability of vacant government sites (including vacant school premises) under the management of the Lands Department that are available for leasing by non-governmental organisations for community purposes on short-term basis. Non-profit making AWOs may also apply from a funding scheme run by the Development Bureau for subsidies to carry out one-off, basic and necessary restoration works so as to put the vacant government sites fit-for-use as re-homing centres.
- (b) The Dogs and Cats Ordinance (Cap. 167) is to provide for the keeping, regulation and control of dogs and cats, for the prohibition of the slaughter of dogs and cats, and for related matters. The Pounds Ordinance (Cap. 168) is to make provision for impounding stray animals and for the disposal thereof. The Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421) is to provide for the prevention and control of rabies and for related matters.

Information regarding the prosecutions made under Cap. 167 and Cap. 421 over the past 5 years is tabulated below.

Prosecutions under Cap. 167

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Allowing a large dog in a public place without leash	19	23	31	49	15
Being the keeper of a fighting dog which has not been neutered	1	1	2	1	1
Failing to control the dog while it is in a public place by measures specified in the direction	2	1	3	0	1
Failing to comply with a condition in the Dangerous Dogs Regulation (Exemption) Notice made under Cap. 167 Section 17(1)	0	0	1	1	0

Prosecutions under Cap. 421

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Keeping a dog over 5 months of age without a valid licence	562	484	319	349	326
Failing to keep a dog under control in a public place	338	256	182	197	144
Failing to keep a dog under control in a public place and the dog bites a person	92	71	75	56	37
Failing to comply with the directions given by the authorised officer (e.g. to put the dog under confinement or quarantine)	0	0	1	0	0
Failing to import animals, carcasses or animal products under and in accordance with a valid permit	11	9	7	16	8
Being the owner of the conveyance on which imported animals, carcasses or animal products fail to be under and in accordance with a valid permit	0	2	3	4	1
Removing animals, carcasses, animal products without a valid permit from the aircraft	2	0	0	0	0

No prosecution was instituted under Cap. 168 over the past 5 years.

- (c) No animal was sold under auction after being gazetted in accordance with section 4 of Cap. 168 over the past 5 years.
- (d) AFCD commissioned the Census and Statistics Department to conduct a thematic household survey on the keeping of pets in 2018. The findings of the survey will be available in mid-2019. According to the thematic household survey conducted in 2010, there were some 248 000 dogs and 168 000 cats kept in the households in Hong Kong. Their distribution by district is not available.
- (e) The cumulative number of licensed and sterilised dogs is not available. Nevertheless, as at 31 December 2018, there were 175 677 dogs licensed in Hong Kong, amongst which 102 458 of them were sterilised. There is no specific statutory requirement for cats to be licensed and AFCD does not have the number of cats sterilised.
- (f) The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.

- End -

Calendar year	Ratio of animals rehomed by 4 AMCs											
	AMC / HK			AMC / K			AMC / NTS			AMC / NTN		
	Dogs	Cats	Others [*]	Dogs	Cats	Others [*]	Dogs	Cats	Others [*]	Dogs	Cats	Others ^{*^}
2016	56.1%	6.5%	34.9%	7.6%	12.7%	17.60%	7.8%	11.8%	32%	11.7%	17.5%	1.60%
2017	51.4%	2.7%	15.4%	17.5%	9.4%	34.70%	19.6%	12.2%	50%	11.2%	7.9%	0.06%
2018	59.9%	13.9%	145.0% [#]	20.5%	16.9%	0.93% [@]	21.4%	13.5%	41%	18.4%	8.9%	0.09%

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs, poultry / birds, etc.

Some animals received in 2017 were rehomed in 2018.

@ The low percentage was due to large number of birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

^ The low percentage was due to large number of wild animals, poultry and wild birds as well as animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) that were not suitable for rehoming.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)283

(Question Serial No. 4559)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated under this programme that there will be a net increase in 11 posts in 2019-20, and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will review the existing legislation related to animal welfare (including the introduction of regulations imposing positive duty of care on animal keepers) and carry out public consultation. In this regard, please advise on the following:

- (a) The respective post titles, ranks and salary expenditures involved in 2019-20 of the additional posts. How many of the posts are related to the review of legislation in respect of animal welfare?
- (b) The implementation schedule and details of expenditures involved in the public consultation work related to legislation in respect of animal welfare.

Asked by: Hon FAN Kwok-wai, Gary (LegCo internal reference no.: 104)

Reply:

- (a) Information regarding the net increase of 11 posts in Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) under Programme 3 (Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services) in 2019-20 is tabulated below.

Area of Work	Rank	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)

Area of Work	Rank	Number of posts	Provision for salaries in 2019-20 (\$ million)
To handle claims in relation to marine works	Fisheries Supervisor II	2*	0.5
To handle animal poisoning and cruelty cases	Veterinary Officer Field Officer I	1 1	1.6
To strengthen administrative support for the Veterinary Surgeons Board	Executive Officer I Executive Officer II	2 1	2.0
To strengthen manpower support for the Supplies Section	Supplies Supervisor II Supplies Assistant Supplies Attendant	1 1 1	0.7
To enhance promotion of animal welfare	Field Officer II Field Assistant	1 1	0.5
To provide support for the Personnel Section	Executive Officer I	-1**	-0.7
Total		11	4.6

* These two posts are created under Programme 3 for extending the two time-limited posts for the same area of work lapsing in 2019-20 which were created under Programme 1.

** This time-limited post is offset by the creation of the same post for the same area of work under Programme 1 in 2019-20. The creation under Programme 1 is not reflected above.

None of the new posts created is related to the review to enhance animal welfare.

- (b) Having reviewed overseas legislation on animal welfare, and considered views of members of the Legislative Council, animal welfare organisations and other stakeholders, we aim to launch a 3-month public consultation exercise in mid 2019 on proposals to enhance animal welfare. We will draw up legislative proposals after taking into account views gathered in the public consultation. The review forms part of AFCD's on-going work in promotion of animal welfare. As such, there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)284

(Question Serial No. 3559)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

On the regulation and technical services for the flower cultivation industry, please inform:

- (a) the details, respective expenditures and manpower involved in the Government's regulation and technical services for the flower cultivation industry over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (b) the details, estimated expenditure and manpower involved in the Government's regulation and technical services for the flower cultivation industry in 2019-20;
- (c) the total amount and quantities of local and imported flowers over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (d) the measures that the Government currently takes to promote the local flower cultivation industry.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

- (a), (b) and (d) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) provides support services to all crop farmers including florists. The services provided include technical support in respect of cultivation techniques, control of plant pests and diseases and soil analysis, as well as the lending of farm machinery and provision of loans. The resources deployed for these services over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2016-17	7.7	17
2017-18	8.2	18
2018-19 (revised estimate)	8.6	18

The manpower and expenditure involved in providing support services to the flower cultivation industry and promotion of the industry is an integral part of the above provision and there is no separate breakdown.

In 2019-20, AFCD will continue to provide the above-mentioned services to crop farmers including florists with a similar level of resources as in 2018-19.

- (c) The value of local production and net import of flowers over the past 3 years is tabulated below. We do not have the data in quantities for local production and import.

Calendar year	Local production (\$ million)	Net import (\$ million)
2016	154	244
2017	158	406
2018	149	501

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)285

(Question Serial No. 3560)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding epidemic prevention for the livestock keeping industry, please advise on the following:

- (a) The latest progress of the epidemic prevention work, and the work plan, estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2019-20.
- (b) The types of pig and bird vaccines introduced into the local industry and the expenditure involved respectively over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (c) The total expenditures involved respectively in vaccinating pigs and birds over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19). What were the respective average costs? What were the respective numbers of pigs and birds vaccinated?
- (d) Regarding the outbreaks of epidemic diseases in livestock at different levels of the local supply chain, what were the numbers, locations (e.g. markets, wholesale markets or farms), and virus(es) concerned respectively over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (e) Will the Government implement any new measures to strengthen the work on prevention of influenza related to poultry and livestock?
- (f) Will the Government implement any new measures to strengthen the work on prevention of the African Swine Fever?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)

Reply:

- (a) and (e) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) prevents and controls the outbreak of animal and zoonotic diseases in local chicken and pig farms through (i) conducting regular inspections of local farms to ensure that the farmers comply with the biosecurity, farm hygiene and other related requirements, including proper vaccination of poultry against Avian Influenza (AI), and taking enforcement action against non-compliant cases; (ii) providing technical advice and assistance to farmers on proper farm management, prevention and control of animal diseases; and (iii) organising education seminars on farm management and disease prevention for local farmers and their workers. The estimated expenditure and manpower earmarked for this area of work in 2019-20 are \$59.6 million and 61 staff respectively.
- (b) AFCD requires all local farms to apply bivalent vaccine that could guard against both H5 and H7N9 AI viruses and AFCD provides technical assistance in the process. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.
- (c) Apart from the mandatory AI vaccination programme for chickens in local farms, pig or chicken farmers may decide whether any other vaccines should be used for better protection of their farm animals against any particular disease. Commonly used vaccines include those against porcine circovirus, Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome, etc. in pigs, and those against New Castle Disease, Infectious Tracheitis and Gumboro Disease, etc. in poultry. All the vaccines used in local farms are purchased by farmers at their own cost. AFCD does not have information on the total expenditure and the average costs involved in vaccinating pigs and poultry.
- (d) Over the past 3 years (2016 to 2018), there was 1 case of detection of H7N9 AI virus from an environmental sample collected from a live poultry market stall in June 2016.
- During the same period, there were 5 FMD cases in local pig farms in February (1 case), March (3 cases) and June (1 case), all in 2018 respectively.
- (f) Since the first African Swine Fever (ASF) case was reported on the Mainland in early August 2018, AFCD has been closely monitoring the situation and implementing corresponding measures in a timely manner. Major measures being implemented include:
- (i) maintaining close contact with pig farmers, and stepping up inspection to all local pig farms;
 - (ii) advising farmers to implement proper biosecurity measures and providing assistance and loans to facilitate farmers to acquire appropriate facilities to enhance biosecurity;
 - (iii) requesting all local pig farms to step up the cleansing and disinfection of vehicles and personnel entering and leaving pig farms;
 - (iv) suspending the import of breeders from the Mainland;

- (v) banning the storage or use of swill of pork origin as pig feed from 12 January 2019 through introducing new conditions to the relevant livestock keeping licences;
- (vi) devising a contingency and surveillance plan for detecting ASF and conducting ASF testing when there is suspected infection of pigs;
- (vii) conducting drills on culling of pigs to prepare for ASF outbreaks in local pig farms; and
- (viii) liaising with relevant government departments regarding tightening up on collection of pig waste and carcasses.

AFCD will remain vigilant and closely monitor the situation with a view to taking further measures as and when necessary.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)286

(Question Serial No. 3561)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding antibiotic use in livestock, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the numbers of cases of using prohibited antibiotic and restricted antibiotic exceeding maximum residue level in local pig farms and chicken farms, as well as chickens and pigs imported from the Mainland over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) Further to the above question, what were the respective numbers of prosecutions instituted and successful prosecutions?
- (c) What were the expenditures and manpower on matters concerning inspections of meat safety, technical support rendered to farmers and publicity on antibiotics over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (d) It is stated in the Hong Kong Strategy and Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance that the Government would explore how to seek proper support and veterinary services for the industry in order to prevent and treat diseases. What is the progress of the work?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 80)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Over the past 3 calendar years (i.e. 2016-2018), there was 1 case each of suspected usage of prohibited antimicrobial and restricted antimicrobial exceeding maximum residue level in local pig farms. Prosecution was not initiated for either case due to insufficient evidence.
- (c) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is responsible

for the testing of veterinary drug residues in samples collected from food animals to be slaughtered, and regular inspections of local livestock farms to monitor the health of pigs and chickens. AFCD also advises farmers on the responsible and prudent use of veterinary drugs, including antimicrobials. The work above forms part of AFCD's overall farm management and disease prevention programme for local livestock farms. There is no separate breakdown for the expenditure and manpower involved.

- (d) Following the announcement of the Hong Kong Strategy and Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in July 2017, AFCD has been engaging local veterinary associations, tertiary institutions and the livestock sector with a view to facilitating and supporting projects for the provision of veterinary services to food animal production farms by the non-government veterinary sector. Three projects have been approved under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund and the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund for providing veterinary services to local pig farms, local chicken farms and local fish farms. These projects involve formulation of tailor-made farm-specific disease management plans for the purposes of disease prevention and promoting responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials, and assisting farmers in sourcing vaccines and other veterinary medications. In addition, AFCD commissioned a consultancy study in October 2017 to devise a surveillance programme to monitor antimicrobial usage as well as the prevalence of bacteria with AMR in local food animal farms including livestock and fish farms. The consultancy study will be completed by mid-2019 and the recommended surveillance programme will be launched later this year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)287

(Question Serial No. 3562)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the details, expenditures and manpower involved in promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry (e.g. the development of eco-tourism, leisure fishing, fisheries operations employing innovative technology and other sustainable fisheries operations) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (c) Since the introduction of the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund and its Equipment Improvement Project, how many project applications have been received, approved, rejected and are being examined in total? What are these projects by type (e.g. capture, culture, leisure fishing or others)?
- (d) Further to the above question, what are the number of beneficiaries, and among them, the number of in-service fishermen benefited since the introduction of the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund and its Equipment Improvement Project?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 81)

Reply:

- (a) The Government has been promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry through (i) implementing a suite of fisheries management measures to help conserve and restore depleted marine resources such as the ban on trawling since December 2012 and the introduction of a registration system for local fishing vessels; (ii) assisting fishermen in switching to sustainable fisheries operations and helping fish

farmers develop sustainable aquaculture through technical support services, credit facilities and training courses; (iii) promoting good aquaculture practices and enhancing the monitoring of aquaculture environment; and (iv) administering the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (SFDF) to help fishermen adopt a sustainable and high value-added operation mode and fund projects and research that help enhance the overall competitiveness of the industry.

The expenditure and manpower involved in promoting the sustainable development of the fisheries industry over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2016-17	83.0	104
2017-18	108.8	106
2018-19 (revised estimate)	182.0	107

- (b) The expenditure and manpower involved in the administration of SFDF over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2016-17	2.1	7
2017-18	2.5	7
2018-19 (revised estimate)	2.8	7

- (c) Since its inception, 40 applications have been received under SFDF and its Equipment Improvement Project (EIP). Details of these applications are tabulated as follows:

Number / Type of applications	Aquaculture	Recreational fisheries	Others	EIP	Total
Received	22	5	6	7	40
Approved	9	2	-	3	14
Rejected	7	2	4	-	13
Withdrawn by the applicant	4	1	1	-	6
Under processing	2	-	1	4	7

- (d) So far, 2 SFDF projects were completed, benefiting around 110 in-service fishermen. Upon completion of other projects that are in progress, the actual number of fishermen benefited would further increase.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)288

(Question Serial No. 3563)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding co-operative societies, please advise on:

- (a) the numbers of co-operative societies related to the fisheries and agriculture industries, as well as other co-operative societies respectively over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (b) the expenditures and manpower involved in co-operative societies related to the fisheries and agriculture industries, as well as other co-operative societies respectively over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 82)

Reply:

The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.

- End -

Annex

Financial year / Industry	2016-17			2017-18			2018-19 (revise estimate)		
	Number of Co-operative Societies *	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)	Number of Co-operative Societies *	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)	Number of Co-operative Societies #	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
Agriculture	53	1.7	3	54	1.6	3	54	1.4	3
Fisheries	58	1.8	4	56	1.9	4	55	2.0	4
Others	64	5.0	9	64	4.7	9	64	4.3	9
Total	175	8.5	16	174	8.2	16	173	7.7	16

* As at the end of the period

As at end February 2019

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)289

(Question Serial No. 3564)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding hydroponic farming, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in the "Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre" (C.E.H.R&D Centre) established at the Cheung Sha Wan Wholesale Vegetable Market over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What are the production area, crop varieties, production quantity, production value, and the number of sales outlets of the C.E.H.R&D Centre?
- (c) What are the Government's current policies for facilitating the development of the local hydroponic farming industry? What are the expenditure and manpower involved in facilitating the development of the hydroponic farming industry?
- (d) What are the production value, production quantity, the numbers of hydroponic farms and the distribution of the local hydroponic farming industry (by the 18 districts) respectively?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 83)

Reply:

- (a) In 2013, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) jointly set up the Controlled Environment Hydroponic Research and Development Centre (the Centre) for demonstrating hydroponic technology and facilities, with a view to facilitating technology transfer to the trade. The Centre was initially funded by VMO. As extra resources are essential to carry out additional research and development work, the operational

expenditure of the Centre has been funded by the Government since April 2018. The expenditure and manpower involved over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2016-17	1.5	5
2017-18	1.4	5
2018-19 (revised estimate)	3.1	8

- (b) The Centre has a total area of about 500 square metres, half of which is used for production and the rest for research and development. At present, 7 varieties of baby salad green are produced, i.e. Mizuna, Oak Leaf Lettuce, Red Asian Mustard, Chinese Flat Cabbage, Rocket, Red Komatsuna and Broccoli. About 7 kilogramme of vegetables are produced daily at a wholesale value of about \$200 per kilogramme and sold through 15 retail outlets.
- (c) The Government encourages the adoption of modern farming practices as well as the development of new agricultural technology and related knowledge transfer. Hydroponics is one such example. The Centre will continue to undertake research and development work including selection and testing of new varieties, introduction of improved hydroponic technology and collaboration with research institutes on testing innovative technology in hydroponics application. In 2018-19, AFCDC allocated 8 staff and \$3.1 million to support the work of the Centre. In addition, AFCDC will also continue to provide technical advice and support to investors who are interested in setting up hydroponic systems as an alternative option for agricultural production. This area of work is an integral part of AFCDC's overall programme to support local agriculture and there is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved.
- (d) Currently, there are 40 local hydroponic farms producing annually over 650 tonnes of vegetables with an estimated value of \$122 million. Distribution of the hydroponic farms is tabulated below.

District	Number
Yuen Long	19
North	9
Tai Po	1
Kwun Tong	2
Yau Tong	1
Kwai Tsing	2
Sai Kung	1
Sham Shui Po	1
Shatin	1
Tsuen Wan	1
Tuen Mun	1
Causeway Bay	1
Total	40

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)290****(Question Serial No. 3566)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Regarding the Mainland Fishermen Deckhands Scheme (the Scheme) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in processing the applications under the Scheme over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (b) What were the numbers of applications for and deckhands involved in different types of fishing vessels (including pair trawlers, stern trawlers, shrimp trawlers, hang trawlers, purse seiners with light, purse seiners, liners and gillnetters, fish carriers, and other fishing vessels) over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (c) What were the numbers of cases of contravening the relevant legislation and codes of the Scheme, and the heaviest penalties imposed, over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 85)Reply:

- (a) The expenditure and manpower involved in processing the applications under the Mainland Fishermen Deckhands Scheme (the Scheme) over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of staff)
2016-17	1.2	3
2017-18	1.3	3
2018-19 (revised estimate)	1.2	3

- (b) The number of applications and deckhands involved by types of fishing vessels over the past 3 years is tabulated below.

Financial year/ Vessel type	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19*	
	Number of					
	Applications	Deckhands involved	Applications	Deckhands involved	Applications	Deckhands involved
Pair trawler	59	310	53	292	25	129
Stern trawler	47	188	46	191	39	167
Shrimp trawler	55	246	55	251	50	236
Hang trawler	19	107	25	138	18	100
Purse seiner with light and Purse seiner	60	429	49	355	56	409
Liner and Gill netter	81	478	74	483	88	550
Fish carrier	267	1 733	271	1 790	263	1 821
Other fishing vessel	37	214	49	285	38	227
Total	625	3 705	622	3 785	577	3 639

*As at end February 2019

- (c) The number of cases contravening the Scheme in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 (as at end February 2019) is 17, 9 and 8 respectively. The heaviest penalties imposed under the Scheme include cancellation of quota approved for all deckhands for the subject vessel, and prohibition of the concerned applicant from applying under the Scheme for 2 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)291

(Question Serial No. 3567)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the reprovisioning of livestock farms, please advise on the following:

- (a) The distribution of those sites currently designated as (i) livestock waste prohibition areas, (ii) livestock waste control areas and (iii) livestock waste restriction areas (mark the locations and boundaries of such sites in different colours on a map); the respective numbers of (i) pig farms and (ii) chicken farms operating in those 3 types of areas in each of the past 5 years (2014-15 to 2018-19); the differences in respect of the restrictions (including the requirements and procedure regarding application for operating a livestock farm) imposed by the Government on the operation of livestock farms in those 3 types of areas.
- (b) The sites which are in compliance with the relevant provisions of the 2 aforesaid pieces of legislation and other relevant legislation and are available to farmers for building new livestock farms or reprovisioning existing farms, as well as the sizes of such sites (mark the locations of such sites on a map).
- (c) As farmers may, through the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme, identify sites for relocating their livestock farms, has any farmer who had been affected by planned developments succeeded in identifying suitable sites for relocating their farms through the Scheme over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)? If yes, what are the details? If not, has the Government put in place new measures to help such farmers in reprovisioning their livestock farms and suitably expanding their farms to improve their livestock keeping technology?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 86)

Reply:

Having consulted the Environmental Protection Department, reply to the various parts of the question is set out below.

(a) Under sections 15, 15A and 15AA of the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354) (the Ordinance), Hong Kong is classified into 3 areas, namely livestock waste prohibition, control and restriction areas as shown at the **Annex**. Their control on the operation of livestock farms is generally as follows:

- (i) urban areas of Hong Kong are livestock waste prohibition areas, where livestock keeping is banned;
- (ii) within livestock waste control areas, a livestock keeper must apply for licence from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and comply with the Waste Disposal (Livestock Waste) Regulations (Cap. 354A) (the Regulations); and
- (iii) within livestock waste restriction areas (i.e. area in the New Territories and on outlying islands), no livestock keeping is allowed, unless the relevant premises had been in use continuously for livestock keeping during the 12 months before 1994 and the livestock keeper holds a licence from AFCD, or is authorised to do so by the Director of Environmental Protection, and the livestock keeping operation complies with the Regulations.

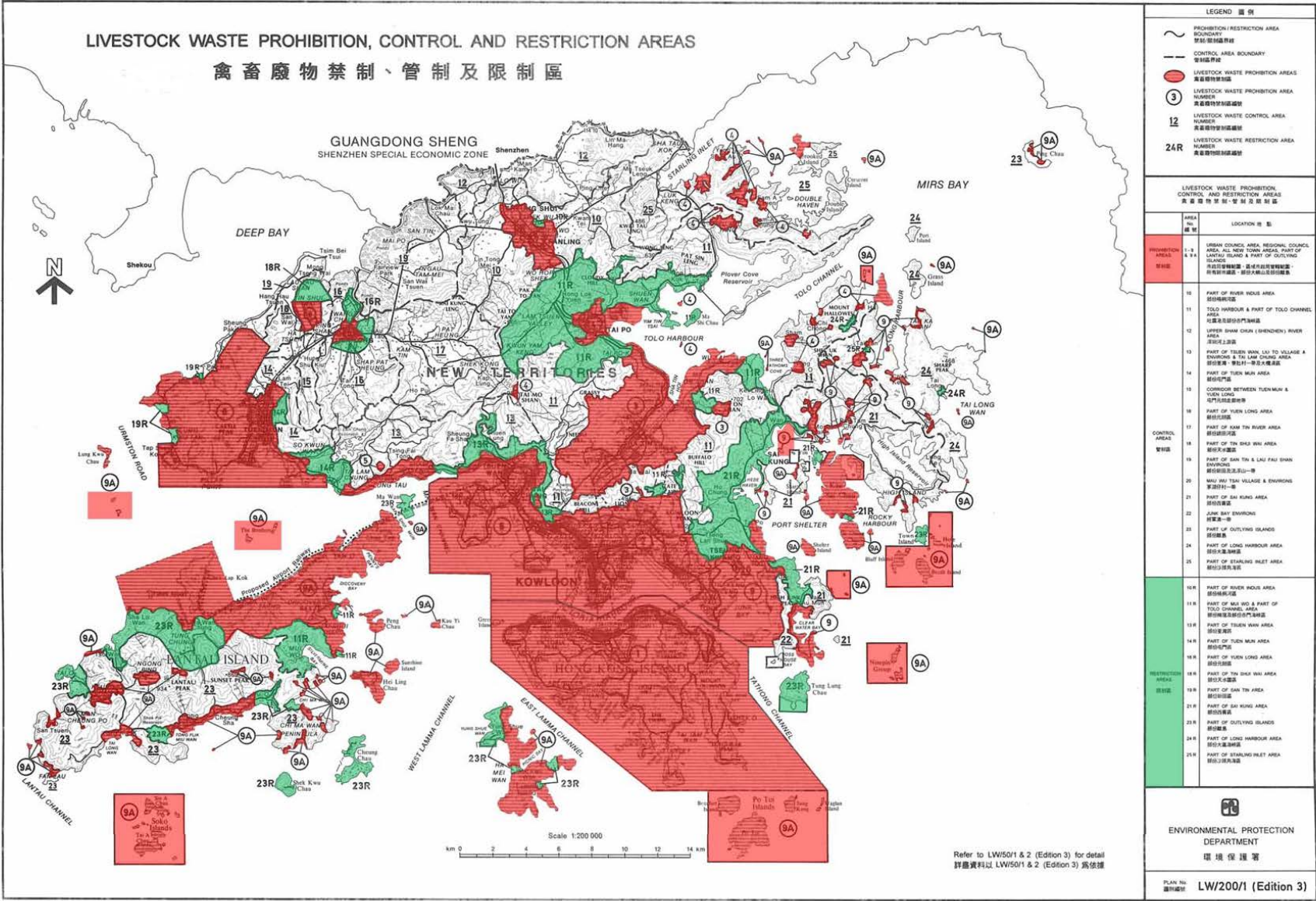
Over the past 5 years, the number of licensed livestock farms in the 3 areas is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Livestock waste prohibition areas		Livestock waste control areas		Livestock waste restriction areas	
	Pig farms	Chicken farms	Pig farms	Chicken farms	Pig farms	Chicken farms
2014	0	0	42	26	1	3
2015	0	0	42	26	1	3
2016	0	0	42	26	1	3
2017	0	0	42	26	1	3
2018	0	0	42	26	1	3

(b) and (c) Since 2016, there has not been any relocation of livestock farm arising from Government development projects. In the event that a licensed livestock farm is affected by Government development projects, the licensee may consider relocation. The relocation site must fulfill the requirements under the Ordinance and the Regulations governing the handling of livestock waste; the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Licensing of Livestock Keeping) Regulation (Cap. 139L) with regard to livestock keeping control, biosecurity, environmental protection, etc.; and the relevant legislation and regulations relating to planning and land controls. Whether an individual site is suitable

for relocation is subject to its actual circumstances, and thus we do not have the information of sites and land area available for relocation of livestock farms. Nonetheless, to ensure that sufficient land will be available to meet the needs of the agricultural sector, a consultancy study is being conducted to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land as Agricultural Priority Areas, and potential areas for livestock farming and for possible relocation and/or consolidation of existing livestock farms. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland in Hong Kong and studying overseas experience, before making recommendations. In addition, we are preparing the legislative amendments enabling the relocation of local chicken farms which we aim to put to the Legislative Council for negative vetting later this year.

- End -



Prepared by Survey & Mapping Office, Lands Department May 1994 地政總署測繪處繪製 一九九四年五月

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)292

(Question Serial No. 3568)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the imports of birds, poultry and ostriches, please advise on the following:

- (a) Over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19), what were the numbers of birds imported? Please set out by bird species (in particular those endangered species which require possession licences) and place of import.
- (b) Over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19), what were the numbers of shops with animal trader licences?
- (c) Currently, how many birds in Hong Kong are accompanied with possession licences issued by the Government? Over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19), what were the numbers of possession licences issued by the Government?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 87)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's measures on the control of the import of live birds under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Regulations (Cap. 139A) and the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) (the Ordinance) are overseen by the Food and Health Bureau and the Environment Bureau respectively. Our reply to the various parts of the question is as follows:

- (a) The requested information is tabulated at the **Annex**.
- (b) The number of holders of animal trader licence for selling birds is 80, 57 and 48 in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively.

- (c) According to the Ordinance, possession of live endangered birds which are listed in Appendix I, and of live endangered birds which are listed in Appendix II and are of wild origin, requires a licence to possess (PL) for each keeping premises if they are kept for commercial purposes. A PL can cover more than 1 species / individual. Currently, there are 30 valid PLs in respect of live endangered birds, covering 4 405 individuals of 41 species.

The number of PLs issued (including licences renewed) covering live endangered birds is 2, 17 and 6 in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively.

- End -

Birds Imported into Hong Kong from 2016 to 2018

Calendar year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
2016	<i>Amazona aestiva</i> *	216	Mali, Czech Republic
	<i>Amazona aestiva xanthopteryx</i> *	5	Denmark
	<i>Amazona amazonica</i> *	397	Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Amazona dufresniana</i> *	20	Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Amazona farinosa</i> *	172	Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Amazona festiva</i> *	41	Singapore
	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i> *	212	Mali, Czech Republic, Denmark, Singapore, Philippines, Suriname
	<i>Amazona oratrix</i> *	6	Belgium, Netherland
	<i>Ara ararauna</i> *	321	Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Mali, Philippines, Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Ara ararauna x Ara chloroptera</i> *	6	Czech Republic, Denmark, Philippines
	<i>Ara chloropterus</i> *	228	Mali, Czech Republic, Belgium, Denmark, Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Ara macao</i> *	3	Belgium
	<i>Ara militaris</i> *	2	Netherland
	<i>Aratinga guarouba</i> = <i>Guarouba guarouba</i> *	1	Philippines
	<i>Aratinga solstitialis</i> *	51	Mali
	<i>Aratinga wagleri</i> *	500	Peru
	<i>Cacatua alba</i> *	3	Czech Republic, Denmark
	<i>Cacatua ducorpsii</i> *	3	Czech Republic
	<i>Cacatua galerita</i> *	5	Czech Republic, Philippines
	<i>Chalcopsitta atra</i> *	10	Syrian Arab Republic
	<i>Deropterus accipitrinus</i> *	1	Czech Republic
	<i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i> *	123	Czech Republic, Mali, Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Eclectus roratus</i> *	57	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i> *	105	Czech Republic, Mali, Belgium
	<i>Eos bornea</i> *	37	Syrian Arab Republic
	<i>Lorius garrulus</i> *	125	Syrian Arab Republic
	<i>Orthopsittaca manilata</i> *	20	Singapore
	<i>Pionites leucogaster</i> *	6	Czech Republic, Philippines
	<i>Pionites melanocephalus</i> *	341	Czech Republic, Mali, Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Pionus chalcopterus</i> *	5	Czech Republic
	<i>Pionus menstruus</i> *	51	Czech Republic, Singapore
	<i>Poicephalus gularis</i> *	300	Mali
<i>Poicephalus robustus</i> *	1	Czech Republic	
<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i> *	1 370	Mali, Senegal	

Calendar year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
	<i>Propyrrhura auricollis</i> = <i>Primolius auricollis</i> *	13	Czech Republic
	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i> *	622	Mali, Philippines, Singapore
	<i>Psittacus erithacus timneh</i> *	150	Mali
	<i>Pyrrhura molinae</i> *	1	Philippines
	<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i> *	8	Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i> *	13	Singapore, Suriname
	<i>Chloropsis cyanopogon</i>	50	Malaysia
	<i>Chloropsis sonnerati</i>	50	Malaysia
	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	2 063	Malaysia, Mali
	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>	250	Mozambique
	<i>Crithagra citrinipectus</i>	150	Mozambique
	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>	1 150	Mozambique
	<i>Crithagra mozambicus</i>	3 050	Mozambique
	<i>Geokichla citrina</i>	20	Malaysia
	<i>Irena puella</i>	20	Malaysia
	<i>Megalaima pulcherrima</i>	10	Malaysia
	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	146	Denmark, Mali
	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	70	Malaysia
	<i>Psilopogon pyrolophus</i>	30	Malaysia
	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	100	Mali
	<i>Pteroglossus azara</i>	4	The Netherlands
	<i>Serinus alario</i>	150	Mozambique
	<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>	100	Mali
	<i>Serinus citrinipectus</i>	810	Mali, Mozambique
	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	500	Mozambique
	<i>Serinus leucopygius</i>	12 460	Mali, Senegal
	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	10 180	Mali, Mozambique, Senegal
	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>	560	Mali, Mozambique
	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	300	Peru
	<i>Sitta azurea</i>	20	Malaysia
	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>	150	Mozambique
	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	650	Mali, Mozambique
	<i>Zoothera interpres</i>	20	Malaysia
	<i>Zoothera peronii</i>	10	Malaysia
2017	<i>Amazona aestiva</i> *	30	Czech Republic
	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i> *	32	Czech Republic
	<i>Ara ararauna</i> *	7	Czech Republic
	<i>Ara ararauna x Ara chloroptera</i> *	2	Czech Republic
	<i>Ara chloropterus</i> *	5	Czech Republic
	<i>Cacatua alba</i> *	2	Czech Republic
	<i>Cacatua galerita</i> *	2	Czech Republic
	<i>Amandava subflava</i>	290	Guinea, Mali

Calendar year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	50	Guinea
	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	935	Malaysia
	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>	100	Mozambique
	<i>Crithagra mozambicus</i>	3 250	Mozambique
	<i>Dryonastes courtoisi</i>	2	U.K.
	<i>Lamprotornis iris</i>	20	Guinea
	<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>	50	Guinea
	<i>Mandingda nitidula</i>	70	Mali
	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	100	Malaysia
	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	31	Australia, Malaysia
	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	1	Singapore
	<i>Serinus alario</i>	100	Mozambique
	<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>	500	Mozambique
	<i>Serinus citrinipectus</i>	1 000	Mozambique
	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	550	Mozambique
	<i>Serinus leucopygius</i>	7 580	Guinea, Mali
	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	6 080	Guinea, Mali, Mozambique
	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>	400	Mozambique
	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>	220	Guinea
2018	<i>Amazona aestiva</i> *	97	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i> *	66	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Anthobaphes violacea</i>	10	Guinea
	<i>Ara ararauna</i> *	54	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Ara chloropterus</i> *	18	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Cacatua alba</i> *	4	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Cacatua leadbeateri</i> *	2	Mali
	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	1 130	Malaysia
	<i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i>	20	Guinea
	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>	550	Mozambique
	<i>Crithagra mozambicus</i>	5 000	Mozambique
	<i>Deropterus accipitrinus</i> *	1	Czech Republic
	<i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i> *	4	Mali
	<i>Electus roratus</i> *	20	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i> *	28	Belgium, Mali
	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>	300	Guinea
	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	300	Guinea
	<i>Forpus coelestis</i> *	6	Taiwan
	<i>Lamprotornis caudatus</i>	50	Mali
	<i>Lamprotornis iris</i>	20	Mali
	<i>Laniarius barbarus</i>	20	Guinea
	<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i>	1 000	Malaysia
<i>Lonchura maja</i>	1 000	Malaysia	
<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	1 000	Malaysia	

Calendar year	Species	Quantity (head)	Country/place of export
	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i> *	4	Belgium
	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	90	Czech Republic, Malaysia
	<i>Pionites leucogaster</i> *	45	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali, Singapore
	<i>Pionites melanocephalus</i> *	26	Belgium, Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Pionus chalcopterus</i> *	3	Czech Republic
	<i>Pionus fuscus</i> *	7	Czech Republic
	<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i> *	300	Democratic republic of the Congo
	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i> *	3	Mali
	<i>Poicephalus robustus</i> *	20	Mali
	<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i> *	500	Mali
	<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>	1 150	Mozambique
	<i>Serinus canaria</i>	538	Czech Republic, Mali
	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	1 250	Mozambique
	<i>Serinus leucopygius</i>	12 400	Mali
	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	6 900	Guinea, Mali, Mozambique
	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>	600	Mozambique
	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>	80	Mali
	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	400	Mali
	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	50	Mali

*Endangered species under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586)

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)293

(Question Serial No. 3569)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the artificial reefs project, please advise on the following:

- (a) The situation of deployment of artificial reefs, the numbers of artificial reefs deployed and the areas concerned over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (b) Has the Government ever assessed the effectiveness of the artificial reefs project?
- (c) What were the details of the revised estimated expenditure and the work involved in 2018-19?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 88)

Reply:

- (a) No artificial reefs (ARs) were deployed by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years.
- (b) and (c) AFCD conducted underwater surveys on the fisheries resources in areas with ARs to assess their effectiveness. Results from past surveys indicate that areas with ARs deployed support higher diversity and abundance of fish species as compared with the natural habitat. Over 220 species of fish, including high-valued species like groupers, breams, snappers and sweetlips, have been found using ARs for feeding, shelter, as well as spawning and nursing.

In 2018-19, an expenditure of \$0.95 million was incurred for conducting the underwater survey.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)294

(Question Serial No. 3571)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding issues relating to marine environmental incidents, please advise on the following:

- (a) How would the Department alert mariculturists in the nearby fish culture zones that may be affected upon receiving reports of marine incidents?
- (b) What method will the Department adopt to assess the potential impacts of the marine incidents on the cultured fish?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

- (a) Upon receiving reports of marine incidents that might potentially affect fish culture zones, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will immediately inform all the mariculturists in the fish culture zones concerned by short message service and alert the respective mariculturist representatives by phone. AFCD will deploy field staff to inspect the fish culture zones concerned as soon as practical and communicate with the mariculturists on site.
- (b) The Government established the Inter-departmental Working Group on Marine Environmental Management (the Working Group) in January 2018 to tackle all marine environmental incidents under the coordination of the Environment Bureau. The Task Force on Emergency Response to Marine Environmental Incidents (the Task Force) is set up under the Working Group, with members from concerned government departments, including AFCD, the Marine Department, the Environmental Protection Department and the Government Laboratory. The Task Force assumes a coordination role, conducts investigations and assesses the impact on the environment including fish culture zones and ecosystem according to the nature of the incident and initiates appropriate mitigation and preventive measures.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)295

(Question Serial No. 3572)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding “the expansion of the existing fish culture zones to improve the fish culture environment and promote the development of marine fish culture”, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the sizes and average densities of rafts in fish culture zones over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)? (Please set out by the 26 fish culture zones.)
- (b) What were the total sizes of fish culture zones over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (c) What were the expenditures and manpower involved in processing matters related to fish culture zones over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (d) The Government launched a pilot scheme in 2014 to issue new marine fish culture licences on a limited basis, with the aim of collecting data for assessing the environmental impact of issuing the new licences. What is the present progress, and what is the number of new licences issued since 2014?
- (e) Further to the above question, the Department would assess the environmental impacts arising from the newly issued licences according to the data collected. What are the results of the assessment?
- (f) The Department is planning to expand the area of the Yim Tin Tsai fish culture zone to improve the raft density, and conducting a consultancy study to identify sites for designating new fish culture zones. What are the expenditures and manpower involved in the above matters, and what are the work progress and effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

- (a) Information on the total area and average densities of rafts in the 26 fish culture zones (FCZs) over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Fish culture zone	Financial year					
	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19 (up to end-February 2019)	
	Total raft area (m ²)	Raft density* (%)	Total raft area (m ²)	Raft density (%)	Total raft area (m ²)	Raft density (%)
Ap Chau	300	7.1	255	6.1	255	6.1
Cheung Sha Wan	10 308	4.8	10 248	4.8	10 108	4.7
Kai Lung Wan	5 562	20.6	5 263	19.5	5 454	20.2
Kat O	3 281	10.1	3 386	10.5	3 129	9.7
Kau Lau Wan	1 205	10.8	1 241	11.1	1 288	11.5
Kau Sai	12 794	27.7	12 548	27.2	12 507	27.1
Leung Shuen Wan	6 346	36.7	6 037	34.9	5 860	33.9
Lo Fu Wat	1 469	27.2	1 469	27.2	1 476	27.3
Lo Tik Wan	22 038	20.2	22 026	20.2	21 752	19.9
Ma Nam Wat	5 141	12.8	5 129	12.8	5 403	13.5
Ma Wan	13 914	30.1	13 879	30.0	13 871	30.0
O Pui Tong	298	0.3	277	0.3	277	0.3
Po Toi	274	9.1	276	9.2	265	8.8
Po Toi O	3 482	9.1	3 411	8.9	3 422	9.0
Sai Lau Kong	142	2.0	142	2.0	142	2.0
Sha Tau Kok	12 697	7.1	12 582	7.0	11 924	6.6
Sham Wan	12 760	7.1	12 018	6.7	12 334	6.8
Sok Kwu Wan	27 392	19.4	27 020	19.1	26 848	19.0
Tai Tau Chau	11 715	18.7	11 926	19.0	12 168	19.4
Tap Mun	7 686	10.6	7 520	10.4	7 708	10.6
Tiu Cham Wan	1 350	7.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
Tung Lung Chau	12 700	15.9	12 703	15.9	11 878	14.8
Wong Wan	2 063	9.2	2 063	9.2	2 063	9.2
Yim Tin Tsai	21 996	16.1	21 120	15.5	21 038	15.4
Yim Tin Tsai (East)	19 926	13.3	19 991	13.4	21 150	14.1
Yung Shue Au	34 343	10.0	35 852	10.5	35 549	10.4
Total	251 182	12.0	248 382	11.9	247 868	11.8

* Raft density refers to the ratio of the total raft area of an FCZ to the total FCZ area.

- (b) There is no change in the total area of FCZs over the past 3 years, which is about 209 hectares.
- (c) The expenditure and manpower involved in the licensing of marine fish culture and conducting patrol and inspection in FCZs over the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2016-17	9.3	21
2017-18	8.4	21
2018-19 (revised estimate)	9.6	21

- (d) and (e) Under a pilot scheme since 2014, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has issued 10 marine fish culture licences (MFCLs) to applicants under the Marine Fish Culture Ordinance (Cap. 353) for 3 FCZs (at Wong Wan, O Pui Tong and Sham Wan) with surplus carrying capacity. Among them, 5 of the licensees set up mariculture operations in the said FCZs. As at end February 2019, 4 MFCLs issued under the pilot scheme remain valid.

The water and sediment quality data collected by AFCD in these FCZs from 2015 to 2018 show that the increased mariculture activities arising from issuing new MFCLs had minimal impact on the marine environment, affirming the feasibility of issuing new MFCLs in existing FCZs with surplus carrying capacity.

- (f) The consultancy studies on the expansion of the Yim Tin Tsai FCZ and identification of new FCZs in Hong Kong were completed. The total consultancy fee was around \$3.7 million. Manpower on overseeing the consultancy studies was absorbed from within existing resources of AFCD. As recommended in the consultancy study on identification of new FCZs, 4 sites namely Wong Chuk Kok Hoi, outer Tap Mun, Po Toi (Southeast) and Mirs Bay were identified with higher priority for designation of new FCZs. The Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene was consulted and welcomed the proposal of lifting the moratorium on designation of new FCZs and issuance of new MFCLs. We will conduct environmental impact assessments on designating these sites as FCZs in stages. The proposed designation of new FCZs will provide opportunities for the progressive mariculturists to develop their business as well as interested ones to enter into mariculture, and thus significantly increase the capacity of local marine fish production. As the proposed designation of new FCZs could provide sufficient room for the development of mariculture, at this stage AFCD will not pursue the expansion of Yim Tin Tsai FCZ.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)296****(Question Serial No. 3581)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the fish rafts in Hong Kong, please advise on:

- (a) the respective numbers of fish rafts in the 26 fish culture zones of Hong Kong over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19) in tabular form; and
- (b) the manpower and the expenditures involved in conducting inspections at each fish culture zone over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19) and the timeframe for the inspections.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

- (a) The requested information is tabulated below.

Fish culture zone / Financial year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to end February)
Ap Chau	4	4	4
Cheung Sha Wan	62	60	60
Kai Lung Wan	41	39	39
Kat O	34	32	28
Kau Lau Wan	20	20	20
Kau Sai	66	64	64
Leung Shuen Wan	70	65	64
Lo Fu Wat	33	33	33
Lo Tik Wan	70	68	68
Ma Nam Wat	41	42	43
Ma Wan	96	95	94

Fish culture zone / Financial year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to end February)
O Pui Tong	9	3	3
Po Toi	6	6	6
Po Toi O	38	38	38
Sai Lau Kong	2	2	2
Sha Tau Kok	108	109	110
Sham Wan	173	173	162
Sok Kwu Wan	145	145	141
Tai Tau Chau	105	101	101
Tap Mun	81	70	71
Tiu Cham Wan	5	0	0
Tung Lung Chau	58	58	58
Wong Wan	15	15	15
Yim Tin Tsai	257	254	254
Yim Tin Tsai (East)	194	201	195
Yung Shue Au	277	281	280
Total	2 010	1 978	1 953

- (b) To ensure the operation of fish rafts is in compliance of the Marine Fish Culture Ordinance (Cap. 353), the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department conducts regular patrol and inspection in the 26 fish culture zones. The expenditure and manpower involved over the past 3 years are tabulated below. There is no breakdown by individual fish culture zone.

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2016-17	8.2	18
2017-18	7.3	18
2018-19 (revised estimate)	8.4	18

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)297****(Question Serial No. 3583)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Fish farmers shall obtain permits issued by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (the Department) before temporarily relocating their fish rafts out of the fish culture zones. Regarding this matter, please advise on the following:

- (a) The numbers of the permits concerned that were issued by the Department over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19). Please set out the numbers with a breakdown by the fish rafts in various fish culture zones.
- (b) What measures does the Department put in place to provide assistance to the affected fish farmers before the approval of their permit applications in case of contingencies and emergencies?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

- (a) The number of permits issued and the fish culture zones (FCZs) involved over the past 3 years for temporary relocation of fish rafts are tabulated below.

Financial year	2016-17	2017-2018	2018-19 (up to end February 2019)
Number of permits issued for temporary relocation of fish rafts and FCZs involved	1 (Kau Sai FCZ)	1 (Sok Kwu Wan FCZ)	0

- (b) In case of contingencies and emergencies, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), with the consent of the Marine Department (MD), allows fish

farmers to temporarily relocate their fish rafts to designated areas before the permit applications are approved. AFCD and MD provide assistance to affected fish farmers for the relocation such as advising on the routing having regard to marine traffic in the area.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)298

(Question Serial No. 3585)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the surveys on fisheries resources, please advise on:

- (a) the manpower and the expenditures involved over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19) and the timeframe for the surveys;
- (b) the manpower and the expenditures involved in employing external local trawlers to conduct the surveys over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19) and the timeframe of the work;
- (c) the area of the waters involved in, the numbers of and the mechanism put in place for the surveys (please show with a map);
- (d) the ways that the Department used to inform the fishing vessels operating in relevant waters;
- (e) during investigation, how the Department's staff monitor the performance of the contractors after boarding the subject vessels so as to ensure that they comply with the contract terms;
- (f) further to the above question, the Department has mentioned that hired pilot boats are used to assist in conducting trawling surveys, what are the effectiveness and expenditure involved? Has the Department received any complaint since the rolling out of the measure?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 54)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducted surveys

to monitor the status of fisheries resources in Hong Kong waters after the implementation of the trawl ban (end of 2012). The expenditure and manpower involved over the past 3 years are tabulated below.

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2016-17	6.6	3
2017-18	3.7	3
2018-19 (revised estimate)	3.2	3

- (b) Part of the surveys mentioned in (a) above was conducted with chartered trawlers, and completed in 2017. The expenditure and manpower involved in respect of these surveys in 2016-17 were \$1.8 million and 1 staff respectively. No further resources were incurred afterwards.
- (c) The surveys mentioned in Part (a) above include:
- (i) the territory-wide trawling surveys which collected samples at 16 stations in the waters of Hong Kong by local trawlers chartered by AFCD on a monthly basis to monitor fisheries resources at the sea bottom;
 - (ii) the purse-seine surveys which collected samples at 9 stations every 3 months to monitor fisheries resources at the middle to upper level of the water column in eastern waters;
 - (iii) the surveys by other fishing methods such as cage-trapping, long-lining and gill-netting which were conducted at various locations every 2 months to collect information on the diversity of fisheries resources at specific fisheries habitats; and
 - (iv) the surveys on fish fry and eggs which were conducted in wet, dry and peak seasons with sampling stations located at the spawning and nursery grounds in the Tolo Channel, Long Harbour and Port Shelter.

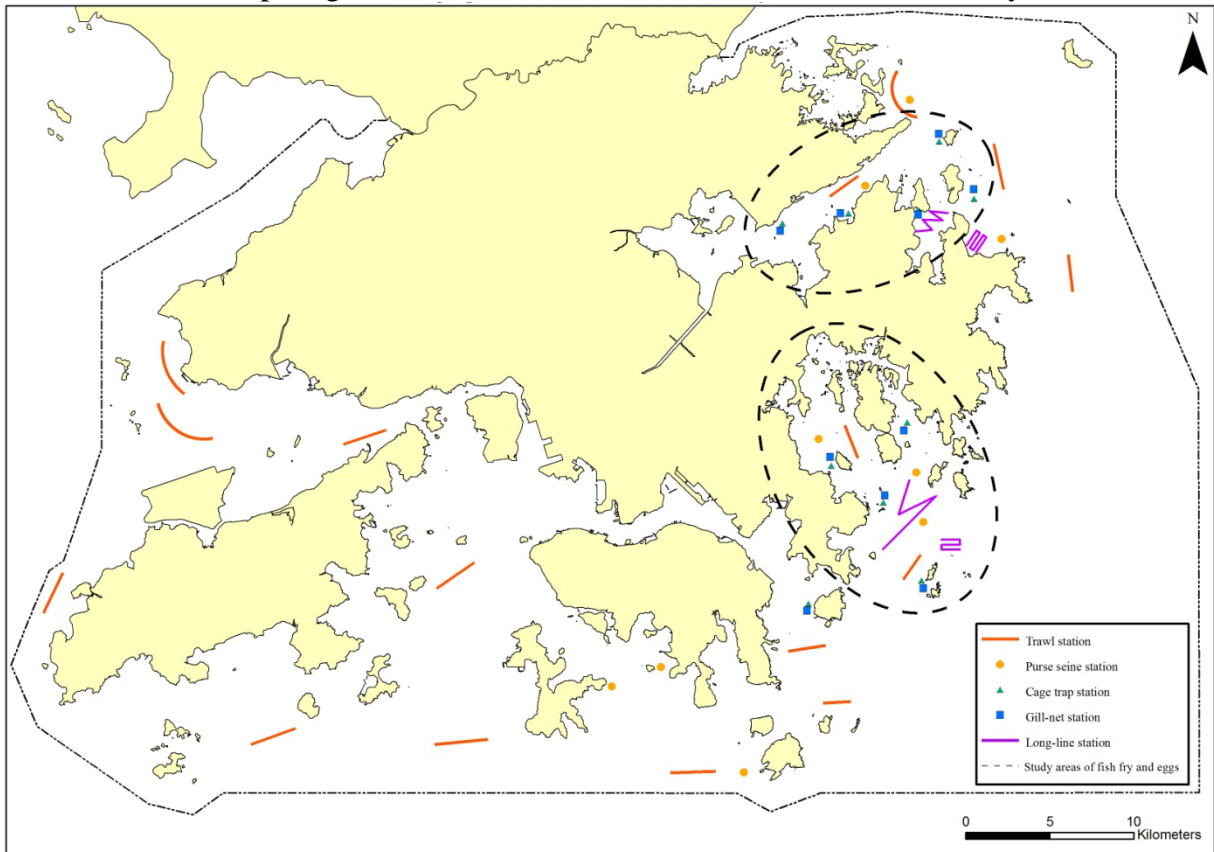
A map indicating the sampling stations is at the [Annex](#).

- (d) AFCD informed relevant fishermen associations of the sampling locations and frequency of the trawling surveys by letters each year. Furthermore, AFCD informed the fishermen associations in the respective districts of a planned survey by telephone about 2 to 3 days before the survey.
- (e) Apart from the work of collecting scientific information on the fisheries samples, staff of AFCD monitored the performance of the contractor by going on board during surveys to ensure that the terms of contract were complied with.
- (f) The pilot boat hired by AFCD helped navigate the trawler along the survey path to avoid any fishing gear already deployed in the waters by fishermen. The expenditure

for hiring the pilot boat for the trawling surveys (which were completed in early 2017) was about \$400,000 in 2016-17. AFCD did not receive any complaint about the surveys. Taking into account the results of the above surveys, AFCD would plan for future surveys for monitoring the fisheries resources and habitats in Hong Kong waters.

- End -

Sampling Locations of Fisheries Resources Surveys



CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)299

(Question Serial No. 3586)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the development of the local agricultural industry, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the locations of the agricultural land, active agricultural land, and arable land, in Hong Kong over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19) (please show with a map)? What were the sizes of the said land?
- (b) What were the manpower and expenditures involved in the investigations conducted by the Department over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (c) The Government is now planning to establish an Agricultural Park in Kwu Tung South. What are the progress, manpower and expenditure involved?
- (d) What are the details, effectiveness, manpower and expenditure involved in the work related to the New Agriculture Policy?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 55)

Reply:

- (a) According to the survey on agricultural land use conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), the total area of agricultural land in Hong Kong is around 4 300 hectares. The estimated area of agricultural land in active farming use over the past 3 years is tabulated by district below. The survey did not provide information on the boundaries of the relevant land for compiling a location map.

District / Calendar year	Estimated area in active farming use (hectare)*		
	2016	2017	2018
North	280	280	290
Yuen Long	240	250	230
Tai Po	60	60	90
Tuen Mun	50	40	50
Islands	30	30	30
Sai Kung	20	20	20
Tsuen Wan	10	10	10
Others	10	10	20
Total	700*	710*	740*

* Rounded to the nearest 10 hectares

- (b) As the survey on agricultural land use forms part of the ongoing work of AFCD, there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure and manpower involved.
- (c) and (d) We have been implementing the New Agriculture Policy (NAP) since 2016 to promote the modernisation and sustainable development of the local agricultural sector. Details of the key measures are set out below.
- (i) We will establish an Agricultural Park (Agri-Park) in Kwu Tung South to help nurture agro-technology and knowledge on modern farm management. The Agri-Park will be developed in 2 phases. Phase 1 will be developed in a relatively small scale (about 11 hectares) with a view to enabling its partial commissioning for use by farmers as early as possible. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee (FC) in the first half of 2019, with a view to commencing the construction works in the fourth quarter of 2019. We are in parallel planning for the Agri-Park Phase 2. In 2019-20, 12 staff (in addition to their other on-going duties) and \$10.1 million have been earmarked for work associated with the establishment of Agri-Park.
- (ii) To ensure that sufficient land will be available to meet the needs of the agricultural sector, a consultancy study is being conducted to identify relatively large areas of quality agricultural land as Agricultural Priority Areas, and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage owners to put currently fallow land into long-term agricultural use by crop and livestock farmers. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland in Hong Kong and studying overseas experience, before making recommendations. Given that a considerable amount of agricultural land is involved in the study, it is estimated that the study may take several years to complete.
- (iii) We set up a \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF) to provide financial support for the modernisation and sustainable

development of local agriculture which is open for applications since December 2016. As at 1 March 2019, a total of 249 applications seeking financial assistance for individual farms to acquire farming equipment and/or materials from the Farm Improvement Scheme under SADF have been received. 238 applications have been approved, involving a total funding commitment of about \$7 million. 3 applications have been rejected and 4 applications withdrawn. The rest are being processed.

In addition, a total of 34 applications seeking funding support for projects that will benefit the local agricultural sector as a whole have been received. Among them, 7 applications have been approved and 7 rejected on the advice of SADF Advisory Committee, 3 withdrawn by the applicants, 1 returned to the applicant (for further supplement / re-submission if necessary) and 3 found to be ineligible to apply for the fund. The other applications are being processed. 4 approved projects have been implemented since the first quarter of 2019.

- (iv) Upon the completion of a review on facilitating technology-based agricultural production in industrial buildings in 2017, the Town Planning Board (TPB) revised the definition of terms used in statutory plans and generally regards such use as “Non-polluting Industrial Use”. Such use is always permitted in industrial buildings without the need for separate application to TPB and in general does not contravene the “Industrial Purposes” stipulated in land lease.

In 2019-20, apart from the existing resources in AFCD for supporting local agriculture, 49 staff and \$26.8 million have been earmarked for the above area of work and other on-going work like promotion of new agro-technology, farm mechanisation, leisure farms as well as monitoring on-farm crop safety under NAP.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)300

(Question Serial No. 3588)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the issue of cattle being indiscriminately fed with various kinds of food by visitors in rural areas, please advise on the following:

- (a) The number of inspections carried out by the Department in the light of the indiscriminate feeding of cattle over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (b) The respective total numbers of prosecutions instituted and persons arrested by the Department for feeding cattle indiscriminately over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19). What were the offences involved in the prosecutions and arrests? What were the penalties imposed upon conviction?
- (c) What measures does the Department plan to adopt in 2019-20 to address the issue?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

Reply:

- (a) to (c) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not encourage members of the public to feed stray cattle, even though it is not against the law. Stray cattle by nature forage in the wild. Providing food for cattle may affect their natural behaviour and survival instinct, causing them to become reliant on human for food. In 2019-20, AFCD will put up publicity banners and posters to enhance public awareness of stray cattle and remind the public not to disturb or feed stray cattle when encountering them.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)301

(Question Serial No. 7212)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the imports and exports of fresh food as well as agricultural and fisheries products, please advise on the following:

The total values of locally produced fresh food and agricultural and fisheries products for supply to the local market over the past 3 years (2016-17 to 2018-19).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The total values of locally produced fresh agricultural and fisheries products* supplied to the local market in 2016, 2017 and 2018 were about \$2,540 million, \$2,480 million and \$2,650 million respectively.

* Including live pigs, live chickens, live and chilled fish and shellfish, vegetables and fruits.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)302****(Question Serial No. 3799)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

The Government has been implementing the New Agriculture Policy (NAP) since 2016. In this connection, would the Government provide the details of the projects implemented so far, dates of implementation, expenditures and staff establishment involved.

Project implemented under NAP	Date of implementation	Expenditure involved	Staff establishment involved	Number of farmers benefited

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 397)Reply:

We have been implementing the New Agriculture Policy (NAP) since 2016 to promote the modernisation and sustainable development of the local agricultural sector. Details of the key measures are set out below.

- (i) We will establish an Agricultural Park (Agri-Park) in Kwu Tung South to help nurture agro-technology and knowledge on modern farm management. The Agri-Park will be developed in 2 phases. Phase 1 will be developed in a relatively small scale (about 11 hectares) with a view to enabling its partial commissioning for use by farmers as early as possible. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee in the first half of 2019, with a view to commencing the construction works in the fourth quarter of 2019. We are in parallel planning for the Agri-Park Phase 2.
- (ii) To ensure that sufficient land will be available to meet the needs of the agricultural sector, a consultancy study is being conducted to identify relatively large areas of

quality agricultural land as Agricultural Priority Areas, and explore suitable policies and measures to encourage owners to put currently fallow land into long-term agricultural use by crop and livestock farmers. The consultant is currently reviewing the existing farmland in Hong Kong and studying overseas experience, before making recommendations. Given that a considerable amount of agricultural land is involved in the study, it is estimated that the study may take several years to complete.

- (iii) We set up a \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF) to provide financial support for the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture which is open for applications since December 2016. As at 1 March 2019, a total of 249 applications seeking financial assistance for individual farms to acquire farming equipment and/or materials from the Farm Improvement Scheme under SADF have been received. 238 applications have been approved, involving a total funding commitment of about \$7 million, benefitting 238 farms directly. 3 applications have been rejected and 4 applications withdrawn. The rest are being processed.

In addition, a total of 34 applications seeking funding support for projects that will benefit the local agricultural sector as a whole have been received. Among them, 7 applications have been approved and 7 rejected on the advice of SADF Advisory Committee, 3 withdrawn by the applicants, 1 returned to the applicant (for further supplement / re-submission if necessary) and 3 found to be ineligible to apply for the fund. The other applications are being processed. 4 approved projects have been implemented since the first quarter of 2019. Upon completion of these projects, the actual number of farmers benefitting from them will be assessed. Details are tabulated as follows:

Item	Project	Date of implementation	Grant approved (\$ million)	Anticipated number of farms benefited
1	Development of sustainable organic fertilisers for output maximisation of outdoor and indoor plant factories	1 January 2019	2.8	2 400 crop farms
2	Technology demonstration project on application of advanced sewage treatment technologies for local pig farms	1 January 2019	5.0	43 local pig farms
3	Improving pig health and production in Hong Kong	1 March 2019	15.0	43 local pig farms
4	Improving poultry health and production in Hong Kong	1 March 2019	15.0	29 local poultry farms
Total			37.8	

In 2018-19, apart from the existing resources in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for supporting local agriculture, 41 staff and \$19.0 million (revised estimate) were involved in the above area of work and other on-going work like promotion of new agro-technology, farm mechanisation, leisure farms as well as monitoring on-farm crop safety under NAP.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)303

(Question Serial No. 3806)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

During 2019-20, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will focus its work on implementing the new agriculture policy to proactively support the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture. In this regard, would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) What were the throughputs of local agricultural and fishery products and their percentages to the total throughputs of the Marketing Organizations over the past 5 years, according to the statistics from the Vegetable Marketing Organization and the Fish Marketing Organization?
- (b) What were the expenditure and manpower involved in the Department's projects and policies in relation to the sales promotion of local agricultural products?
- (c) Regarding the \$500 million "Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund" established in 2016, please provide the details of the projects implemented, dates of implementation, expenditures involved, staff establishment and ranks involved in processing the applications, as well as the numbers of farmers benefited.

Project implemented under the Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund	Date of implementation	Expenditure involved	Staff establishment and rank(s) involved in processing the applications	Number of farmers benefited

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 405)

Reply:

- (a) The volume and percentage of local vegetables marketed through the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) over the past 5 years are tabulated below.

Calendar year	Vegetables marketed through VMO		
	Total throughput (tonnes)	Local Production	
		Volume (tonnes)	Percentage (%)
2014	129 164	2 144	1.7
2015	122 476	2 050	1.7
2016	106 591	1 362	1.3
2017	98 998	1 365	1.4
2018	88 609	1 277	1.4

The Fish Marketing Organization (FMO) does not have statistics on the volume of local fishery products marketed through its markets and hence its percentage to the total throughput of FMO.

- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) helps set up farmers' markets and organise the annual event FarmFest, to promote local agricultural products to the general public. AFCD has jointly developed with FMO and VMO a mobile application "Local Fresh" to facilitate consumers to purchase local produce more conveniently through mobile platforms. AFCD will also enhance support for farmers, in particular the marketing of local produce through disseminating product information collectively on social media. The manpower and expenditure involved in marketing local agricultural products are an integral part of AFCD's overall programme to support local agriculture and there is no separate breakdown.
- (c) We set up a \$500 million Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF) to provide financial support for the modernisation and sustainable development of local agriculture which is open for applications since December 2016. As at 1 March 2019, a total of 249 applications seeking financial assistance for individual farms to acquire farming equipment and/or materials from the Farm Improvement Scheme under SADF have been received. 238 applications have been approved, involving a total funding commitment of about \$7 million, benefitting 238 farms directly. 3 applications have been rejected and 4 applications withdrawn. The rest are being processed.

In addition, a total of 34 applications seeking funding support for projects that will benefit the local agricultural industry as a whole have been received. Among them, 7 applications have been approved and 7 rejected on the advice of SADF Advisory Committee, 3 withdrawn by the applicants, 1 returned to the applicant (for further supplement / re-submission if necessary) and 3 found to be ineligible to apply for the fund. The other applications are being processed. 4 approved projects have been implemented since the first quarter of 2019. Upon completion of these projects, the

actual number of farmers benefitting from them will be assessed. Details are tabulated as follows:

Item	Project	Date of implementation	Grant approved (\$ million)	Anticipated number of farms benefited
1	Development of sustainable organic fertilisers for output maximisation of outdoor and indoor plant factories	1 January 2019	2.8	2 400 crop farming households
2	Technology demonstration project on application of advanced sewage treatment technologies for local pig farms	1 January 2019	5.0	43 local pig farms
3	Improving pig health and production in Hong Kong	1 March 2019	15.0	43 local pig farms
4	Improving poultry health and production in Hong Kong	1 March 2019	15.0	29 local poultry farms
Total			37.8	

A dedicated team of 8 staff (at the rank / equivalent rank of Executive Officer II, Agricultural Officer, Field Officer I and Field Officer II) is involved in processing the applications. In addition, AFCD's accounting staff also provide accounting support to the team apart from their other duties. The 2018-19 revised estimate for the administration of SADF is \$4.66 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)304****(Question Serial No. 5607)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Would the Department set out in tabular form the following information regarding (i) wild pigs, (ii) cattle, (iii) goat and sheep, (iv) stray cats and (v) stray dogs over the past 5 years:

- (a) the numbers of reports of animals from the public received by the Department;
- (b) the numbers of cases that required follow-ups;
- (c) the numbers of successful captures made by the Department;
- (d) the numbers of animals that were injured or died during the operations; and
- (e) the numbers of animals that had to be euthanised after the operations.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 205)Reply:

- (a) and (b) The number of nuisance complaints and reports for assistance related to animals received over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Wild pigs	Cattle	Goats	Stray cats	Stray dogs
2014	336	283	2	3 624	6 597
2015	518	215	4	3 140	6 060
2016	583	242	5	2 383	5 171
2017	738	214	5	1 842	4 268
2018	929	332	4	1 141	3 751

In general, upon receipt of such complaints / reports from members of the public, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) would conduct inspections and take follow up actions as appropriate.

- (c) The number of animals caught by AFCD over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of animals caught				
	Wild pigs	Cattle	Goats	Stray cats	Stray dogs
2014	12	94	1	1 836	3 676
2015	28	88	3	1 359	2 412
2016	59	114	4	876	1 919
2017	106	105	3	674	1 566
2018	197	128	2	547	1 235

- (d) AFCD does not have record of animals injured or died during the catching operations.

- (e) The number of animals that were euthanised after being caught by AFCD over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of animals euthanised				
	Wild pigs	Cattle	Goats	Stray cats	Stray dogs
2014	2	49	1	939	2 406
2015	2	18	1	605	1 424
2016	4	51	0	380	1 039
2017	1	26	0	325	762
2018	1	39	0	271	512

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)305****(Question Serial No. 5906)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide the respective total areas of active farmland and abandoned farmland owned by the Government or private individuals over the past 5 years.

Active farmland (hectare)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Government land					
Private land					
Total area					

Abandoned farmland (hectare)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Government land					
Private land					
Total area					

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 123)Reply:

The requested information, based on the rolling survey conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, is tabulated as follows:

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*	
Active farmland (hectare)	710	690	700	710	740	
					Private Land 550	Government Land 190
Abandoned farmland (hectare)	3 780	3 810	3 740	3 690	3 590	
					Private Land 2 850	Government Land 740
Total area (hectare)	4 490	4 500	4 440	4 400	4 330	

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest 10 hectares.

* Breakdown in land ownership for 2018 based on Development Bureau's information

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)306****(Question Serial No. 6474)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale MarketsControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Did the Government deploy staff to carry out sea patrol regularly so as to implement the trawl ban over the past 3 years? What were the details of the manpower involved? In addition, has the Government received any request for assistance and complaint in this respect? What were the respective numbers and details of requests for assistance and prosecutions in this respect?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 453)Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Marine Police conduct regular and targeted patrols and joint enforcement operations against illegal fishing activities (including trawling) in Hong Kong waters. AFCD also engages in joint enforcement operations and exchanges intelligence with the Guangdong Provincial Marine and Fisheries Inspection Bureau to combat illegal fishing activities along the boundary waters. Information on enforcement over the past 3 years concerning illegal trawling is tabulated below.

Calendar year	2016	2017	2018
Manpower involved [#] (number of staff)	18	18	18
Number of requests for assistance and complaints received	50	46	46
Number of successful prosecutions	3	1	5
Number of persons convicted [^]	9	5	20

[#] Enforcement operations are meant to combat illegal fishing activities, including but not limited to those against trawling.

[^] All prosecuted persons were convicted.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)307****(Question Serial No. 6486)**Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (-) Not specifiedControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please specify the numbers and details of any visits to various District Councils (DCs) made and any district activities attended by the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation in the past 2 years.

District	DC Meetings Attended	District Visits Made	Community Activities Attended	Government Activities Attended
Central and Western	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Eastern	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Southern	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Wan Chai	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Kowloon City	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Kwun Tong	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Sham Shui Po	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:

Yau Tsim Mong	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Wong Tai Sin	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Islands	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Kwai Tsing	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
North	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Sai Kung	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Sha Tin	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Tai Po	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Tsuen Wan	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Tuen Mun	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:
Yuen Long	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:	Date: Time: Details:

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 466)

Reply:

Between January 2017 and December 2018, the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (DAFC) attended meetings of Sha Tin, Tsuen Wan and Sai Kung District Councils, as well as about 50 district events / visits organised / arranged by the Government and different organisations. During the same period, the District Councils of Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing, Islands, Kowloon City, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long, Wong Tai Sin, Sham Shui Po, Wan Chai as well as Central and Western visited the Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark at the invitation of DAFC, while Southern District Council visited the Aberdeen Wholesale Fish Market. DAFC received the District Council delegations on all the above-mentioned occasions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)308

(Question Serial No. 4431)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government mentioned that it would strengthen measures for the management of stray animals. What are these measures? What is the estimated expenditure involved in this area of work in 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) implements various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals. These include:

- (a) actively promoting the serious responsibility and commitment that go with pet keeping, through public education and publicity programmes to disseminate messages on proper care of animals and responsible pet ownership;
- (b) enhancing enforcement against pet owners in contravention of relevant legislation;
- (c) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to, animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
- (d) implementing the long term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with relevant AWOs and local communities.

In 2019-20, AFCD has earmarked \$38.3 million for above work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)309

(Question Serial No. 4432)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the subventions granted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, please advise on the following:

- (a) Please set out the amounts of subventions granted to the animal welfare organisations (AWOs) and the background of AWOs supported by the Government by names of the various AWOs over the past 3 years, as well as the estimated amount of subventions to be granted in 2019-20. What are the criteria for successful applicants and the amounts of subventions granted to them? How does the Government assess the effectiveness of the subject projects?
- (b) Please tabulate the projects granted with subventions, their nature, the organisations running the subject projects, and the respective amounts of subventions granted under the item "Biodiversity Education" over the past 3 years and in 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 61)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been collaborating with animal welfare organisations (AWOs) to enhance animal welfare and promote better animal management. Recognising that most AWOs are non-profit making with limited resources, the Government has since 2011 been providing subvention to these AWOs in supporting their work as long as resources can accommodate. As the subvention has been able to strengthen the said organisations' capacity in animal welfare work, after reviewing the needs of these organisations and the resources implications, we have increased the subvention amount with a view to

enhancing our support to AWOs' work. The increased subvention amount will apply to projects approved in 2018-19, with disbursements to be made in 2019-20.

The eligibility criteria for application for subvention are set out in **Annex 1**. Only applicants that fulfil the criteria and with applications that are project-based and directly related to the promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management will be considered by AFCD. When vetting applications, AFCD will assess -

- (i) the objective(s) and expected result(s) of the proposed project;
- (ii) cost-effectiveness of the project; and
- (iii) reasonableness of the proposed expenditure.

From 2015-16 to 2017-18, a total of 28 applications from 13 AWOs were approved by AFCD. The amount of subvention received by AWOs over the past 3 years and that approved for release to AWOs in 2019-20 is tabulated in **Annex 2**.

AFCD has all along been monitoring the implementation of the subvention scheme. Document review and audit inspections are conducted to monitor the implementation and assess the outcome of subvented programmes, making reference to the activities and items proposed in the applications as approved by AFCD. Thus far, the results of all subvented programmes are found to be satisfactory.

- (b) AFCD has established the Subventions for Biodiversity Education since 2016 to encourage local non-profit making organisations to conduct education programmes that promote biodiversity to the public. 21, 14 and 17 applications were approved under the subvention scheme in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. Details are in **Annex 3**. \$1.4 million has been earmarked for the subvention scheme in 2019-20.

- End -

Eligibility criteria for application for subvention

- (1) The organisation must be:
 - (i) a society as defined by section 2(1) of the Societies Ordinance (Cap. 151) and registered under section 5A(1) of that Ordinance;
 - (ii) a company registered under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) (or Cap. 32 as in force at the time of the registration); or
 - (iii) a body of persons, or charity, as defined by section 2(1) of the Registered Trustees Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 306) which has been granted a certificate of incorporation under section 4(1) of that Ordinance.
- (2) The organisation must also be a charitable institution or trust of a public character that is exempt from tax under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) (rehoming partners of AFCD who did not have charitable status when joining the scheme prior to March 2017 are exempted from this requirement).
- (3) The core services and activities of the organisation must be related to promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management and it must be actively engaged in such services/activities over the past 3 years or more (re-homing partners of AFCD are exempted from the 3-year requirement).
- (4) The organisation must be well-managed and properly constituted with good record keeping and accounting systems.
- (5) Organisations charging an adoption or re-homing fee must possess an exemption from holding an animal trader licence under section 5A of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B). For re-homing partners without charitable status, at least one individual acting on behalf of the organisation must possess the individual exemption.

Subvention to animal welfare organisations (AWOs)

(i) Applied for in 2015-16 and released in 2016-17

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	73,934
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	125,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals (SAA)	38,591
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	41,620
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	16,365
9	Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)	44,854
Total		513,364

(ii) Applied for in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	100,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	45,120
5	Hong Kong Cats	18,300
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
8	SAA	42,000
Total		494,022

(iii) Applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	45,000
10	Animal Friends	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	45,000
Total		570,811

* No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

(iv) Applied for and approved in 2018-19[#]

	AWO	Amount approved (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	120,000
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection	120,000
4	SAA	120,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	120,000
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	150,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	53,500
8	Hong Kong Cats	10,000
9	Kirsten's Zoo	120,000
10	Animal Friends	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	50,000
	Total	1,263,500

[#] The subvention will be released in 2019-20.

Subvention for biodiversity education

(i) 2016-17

	Subvented organisation	Programmes	Amount released (\$)
1	Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong	To promote awareness on the relationship between biodiversity and geodiversity.	43,138
2	Association for Tai O Environment and Development	To enhance the understanding of the conservation of incense tree through guided tours and public participation.	32,507
3	BLOOM Association Hong Kong Ltd.	To provide training for recreational divers to participate in the collection of baseline information for reef fish diversity and distribution.	76,470
4	Business Environment Council Limited	To produce a video to promote the biodiversity along Lantau Tung O Ancient Trail.	98,308
5	Department of Science and Environmental Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong	To enhance the understanding of local biodiversity through guided tours and hands-on educational activities.	22,164
6	ECO Association Limited	To enhance knowledge on Chinese White Dolphin and other marine lives through guided tours and workshops.	72,167
7	Ecobus	To promote public awareness on urban biodiversity through guided tours.	55,900
8	Environmental Association Limited	To raise the awareness of overwintering butterflies and geo-areas through workshops and guided tours.	46,852
9	Firefly Conservation Foundation Limited	To promote the knowledge on insect diversity in Hong Kong through guided tours and workshops.	45,760
10	Footprint	To promote local biodiversity and its importance in our daily lives through guided tours.	64,573

	Subvented organisation	Programmes	Amount released (\$)
11	Grateful Green Group	To instil knowledge on biodiversity conservation and nature appreciation through green ambassadors training.	89,258
12	Green Power Limited	To enhance understanding of coastal and marine ecology through guided tours.	12,850
13	Hong Kong Maritime Museum Limited	To enhance understanding of coral diversity in local water through exhibitions and guided tours.	61,123
14	Ocean Park Conservation Foundation, Hong Kong	To raise environmental awareness on local biodiversity and marine debris issues.	26,192
15	Ocean Park Corporation	To enhance the public understanding of biodiversity and the threats faced by local wildlife.	31,720
16	Plastic Free Seas	To raise the awareness on marine plastic pollutions through guided tours and experiential activities.	8,339
17	Produce Green Foundation	To enhance public knowledge on the biodiversity in farmland and sustainability through volunteer training and guided tours.	85,576
18	Sustainable Ecological Ethical Development Foundation Limited	To enhance understanding of local biodiversity and farmland through guided tours.	0*
19	Tai Tam Tuk Foundation	To promote the diversity of bamboo species in Hong Kong through building a bamboo jungle gym.	36,298
20	The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society	To promote local biodiversity to people with hearing impairment through training and guided tours.	18,466
21	World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong	To promote nature appreciation through process drama and geo-caching.	99,440
Total			1,027,101

* No claims for reimbursement from the subvented organisation concerned have been received.

(ii) 2017-18

	Subvented organisations	Programmes	Amount released (\$)
1	Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong	To promote geodiversity and biodiversity through seminars, guided tours, workshops and exhibitions.	59,978
2	Association for Tai O Environment and Development	To introduce fung shui wood, incense tree and the culture of Hakka village through seminars and guided tours.	34,947
3	BLOOM Association Hong Kong Limited	To educate the public about the conservation of reef fish by establishing a Reef Fish Web-portal.	148,000
4	Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre	To develop teaching materials and organise field studies on arthropods for secondary school students.	142,200
5	Department of Science and Environmental Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong	To introduce local biodiversity to teachers and students of primary and secondary schools through guided tours and experiential activities.	72,813
6	Ecobus	To raise public awareness on biodiversity and environmental protection through guided tours and field studies.	47,149
7	Environmental Association Limited	To organise various educational programmes to promote butterflies in Hong Kong.	122,922
8	Environmental Life Science Society, SS, HKUSU	To organise training courses on local biodiversity for university students and secondary school teachers. Participants will also learn about skills in organising ecological surveys.	77,646
9	Footprint	To promote biodiversity knowledge through organising citizen science activities which allow members of the public to conduct ecological surveys.	71,556
10	Green Power Limited	To raise public awareness on coastal and marine ecology through guided tours and experiential activities.	9,899

	Subvented organisations	Programmes	Amount released (\$)
11	Ocean Park Conservation Foundation, Hong Kong	To raise public awareness on biodiversity through eco-tours, night safari and mudflat clean-up.	19,435
12	Produce Green Foundation	To promote agricultural biodiversity through decent training and education programmes on organic farming.	71,021
13	Tai Tam Tuk Foundation Limited	To organise a citizen science event to encourage members of the public to participate in ecological surveys and learn about biodiversity.	126,489
14	Tung Chung Catholic School	To develop teaching materials and offer training on ecological surveys for primary school and kindergarten teachers.	0*
Total			1,004,055

* No claims for reimbursement from the subvented organisation concerned have been received.

(iii) 2018-19

	Subvented organisations	Programmes	Amount released (\$)
1	Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong	To promote geodiversity and biodiversity through talks, guided tours, workshops and exhibitions.	65,662
2	Association for the Ecological and Cultural Conservation of Aquilaria Sinensis	To raise public awareness on fung shui woods and incense trees through seminars, guided tours and workshops.	22,078
3	Business Environment Council Limited	To produce advertorials and videos to introduce biodiversity related sustainable products.	149,600
4	Caritas Chan Chun Ha Field Studies Centre	To develop environmental education courses and teaching materials for primary school students to enhance their knowledge on species and ecosystem diversity.	118,720

	Subvented organisations	Programmes	Amount released (\$)
5	Caritas Institute of Community Education	To organize workshops for teachers and student teachers of kindergartens to learn about biodiversity and to develop teaching materials for kindergartens.	123,447
6	Dept. of Science and Environmental Studies, The Education University of Hong Kong	To educate primary and secondary school students and teachers on biodiversity through guided tours and educational activities.	77,359
7	Ecology and Biodiversity Society, SS, HKUSU	To promote forest ecology and local biodiversity among students and teachers through the use of board games in teachers' training and school activities.	50,533
8	Environmental Association Limited	To raise public awareness on plant and butterfly diversity through various educational activities.	146,563
9	Green Power Limited	To promote coastal biodiversity through common cordgrass removal activities and guided tours.	8,701
10	Hong Kong Dolphin Conservation Society Limited	To enhance public awareness on cetacean conservation through a series of activities relevant to different cetacean issues.	33,839
11	Hong Kong Maritime Museum Limited	To educate the public on marine issues through seminars and to develop educational materials to promote marine conservation.	99,437
12	Life Jungle Association Limited	To promote Lamma Island's biodiversity and raise public awareness on environmental conservation through eco-tours, exhibitions, workshops and clean-up activities.	96,690
13	Ocean Park Conservation Foundation, Hong Kong	To raise awareness on local biodiversity and global marine debris issue through eco-tours, mudflat clean-ups and seminars.	45,898
14	School of Life Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	To enhance high school students' awareness and knowledge of the coral communities in Hong Kong through seminars, coral displays and coral restoration activities.	71,976

	Subvented organisations	Programmes	Amount released (\$)
15	Tai Tam Tuk Foundation Limited	To carry out a week-long interschool competition to promote secondary school students' and teachers' biodiversity knowledge and conservation awareness.	27,809
16	Tai Wai Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre, The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong	To encourage Tai Wai residents to explore the biodiversity in the area through various community activities such as exhibitions and guided tours.	36,318
17	The Conservancy Association	To promote biodiversity and conservation to young children through drama education.	49,381
Total			1,224,011

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)310

(Question Serial No. 4435)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding euthanasia of animals,

- (a) What were the actual expenditures and breakdown (such as the expenditures on the procurement of medical equipment, administration fees, etc) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) involved in catching and euthanising animals over the past 3 financial years?
- (b) Please set out in tabular form and by type of major animals (cats, dogs and other) the numbers of community animals caught by AFCD, and animals given up by owners, received through other channels, reclaimed by owners, rehomed and euthanised over the past 3 financial years.
- (c) For animals taken to the animal management centres, usually how many days will they stay before being euthanised?
- (d) Does the Government have any plan to review the euthanasia policy?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on catching stray animals and euthanasia of animals over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure (\$ million)	
	Catching operations	Euthanasia of animals
2016-17	28.5	0.9
2017-18	28.7	1.0
2018-19 (revised estimate)	32.1	1.3

AFCD does not have further breakdown of the above expenditure items.

- (b) The number and species of animals handled by AFCD over the past 3 years are tabulated at the **Annex**.
- (c) and (d) Stray animals caught will be put in Animal Management Centres (AMCs) for observation. For those animals with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these animals will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days to allow time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the animals being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary officer as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, AFCD will arrange their transfer to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) for adoption by members of the public as far as possible.

On the other hand, some animals received by AMCs may not be suitable for rehoming due to various reasons, including the risk of carrying zoonotic diseases, health or temperamental reasons. Even for healthy animals, keeping in captivity without rehoming for prolonged period is not in their best interest from the perspective of animal welfare. As such, euthanasia remains a necessary measure for managing stray animals. A number of international animal organisations, including the World Organisation for Animal Health, agree that in situations where the number of stray dogs caught remain high or the dogs are not fit for adoption despite the deployment of various stray dog management measures, euthanasia would be an appropriate and humane solution. Many overseas countries, such as the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, Japan and Singapore, all adopt euthanasia in handling stray animals.

Nevertheless, AFCD will continue to strengthen its efforts on management of stray animals, such as the promotion of responsible pet ownership and animals rehoming as well as taking enforcement action against abandonment of animals by irresponsible owners, with a view to reducing the number of stray animals that need to be euthanised.

- End -

Annex

Calendar year	Stray animals caught			Animals given up by owners			Animals received through other channels			Animals reclaimed by owners			Animals re-homed			Animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others *	Dogs	Cats	Others *	Dogs	Cats	Others *	Dogs	Cats	Others *	Dogs	Cats	Others *	Dogs	Cats	Others *
2016	1 919	876	1 494	1 003	107	56	343	70	674	637	400	1	513	136	92	1 814	449	748
2017	1 566	674	1 640	1 024	84	39	336	65	204	560	269	10	588	67	94	1 478	381	801
2018	1 235	547	1 369	715	80	43	304	62	4 904 [#]	512	206	9	577	89	87	1 026	333	5 007 [#]

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptile, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

[#] The increased numbers were mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)311****(Question Serial No. 4436)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding pet grooming, please advise on the current number and locations of the companies holding Boarding Establishment Licences, the records of their non-compliances and the enforcement actions taken by the Government over the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 65)

Reply:

Under section 4 of the Public Health (Animals) (Boarding Establishment) Regulations (Cap. 139I) (the Regulations), no person shall keep a boarding establishment for animals unless in accordance with a licence granted under the Regulations. If a pet grooming business does not involve animal boarding activities, no licence is required under the Regulations.

Applications for boarding establishment licences are processed by the 4 Animal Management Centres (AMCs) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). As at mid March 2019, the number of boarding establishment licences issued by the 4 AMCs is tabulated as follows:

	New Territories North	New Territories South	Kowloon	Hong Kong Island
Number of valid boarding establishment licences issued	25	12	32	11

Information on the number of convictions under section 4 of the Regulations over the past 3 years and the relevant penalties is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Prosecution against illegal boarding for animals	
	Number of convicted cases	Range of penalty imposed
2016	3	A fine of \$1,000
2017	5	A fine of \$1,000 to \$2,000
2018	6	A fine of \$600 to \$1,500

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)312

(Question Serial No. 4438)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding animal control, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the estimated and actual expenditures of the Animal Management Centres under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on purchasing animal traps, trapping devices or others over the past 3 financial years?
- (b) What were the numbers and places of origin of animal traps, trapping devices or others purchased by the Government over the past 3 financial years?
- (c) What were the types and numbers of animals caught by AFCD by using animal traps, trapping devices or others over the past 3 financial years? Please tabulate the information.
- (d) What were the respective reasons for using animal traps, trapping devices or others? Please illustrate the reasons by types and the respective numbers of different types of cases.
- (e) What were the respective expenditures of AFCD on training staff of the dog-catching teams in each year?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 67)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) At present, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has a total of 286 cage traps and 68 snares for catching different types of animals. No such device was purchased by AFCD over the past 3 years.

- (c) The types and number of animals caught using animal traps are tabulated as follows:

Calendar Year	Number of animals caught with animal traps				
	Dogs (by cage / snare)	Cats (by cage)	Pigeons (by cage)	Monkeys (by cage / snare)	Wild pigs (by cage, net or dart gun)
2016	76/118	564	218	521/31	59
2017	118/103	475	273	291/28	106
2018	40/102	299	0	195/29	197

Note: The management of wild animals fall under the policy purview of the Environment Bureau.

- (d) The snares and cage traps used by AFCD are specially designed or carefully selected to ensure that they are safe to be used on animals. They are widely recognised and used in other countries for catching stray animals. In general, upon receipt of complaints or reports from members of the public regarding nuisances caused by stray or wild animals, staff of the Animal Management Centres or the Wetland and Fauna Conservation Division of AFCD will conduct follow-up inspections respectively and arrange catching operations as necessary. The methods employed to catch stray or wild animals mainly depend on the types of animals involved and the circumstances surrounding the catching operations.
- (e) AFCD staff responsible for catching operations are all trained for using different catching tools and handling animals, including taking all necessary precautionary measures to prevent animals from injury during operations. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure on training of staff for conducting animal catching operations.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)313

(Question Serial No. 4446)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the issue of pet food products, the Government has mentioned that a study was commissioned in October 2017 to test the safety of the pet food products sold in the local market and the study is expected to be completed in 3 years. In this regard, please advise on the following:

- (a) Please set out the respective numbers of tests to be carried out, numbers of samples and the items to be tested in each of the coming 3 years, as well as the estimated expenditures on the subject study and the consultants engaged.
- (b) The reasons why the study is expected to be completed in 3 years. Does the Government have any plan on hand for monitoring pet food products?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) commissioned a study in October 2017 to sample and test pet food products commonly available in the Hong Kong market. A total of 360 samples of different pet food products in different forms including dry food, wet food and freeze-dried ones, are being collected and tested against certain harmful substances, micro-organisms, such as Salmonella, aflatoxin and melamine, as well as heavy metals. Up to mid March 2019, testing of 180 samples, including dry / wet food for dogs and cats, has been completed. So far the results are within the limits permitted by major pet food producing countries / places.

Since pet food products for sale in Hong Kong are imported from different places, and available in different forms, such as dry food, wet food, freeze-dried and frozen food, before samples are collected, a list of products for testing has to be first drawn up based on a research on the types of pet food products available in Hong Kong. Products are then

sampled and tested by batches. In addition, different forms of pet food may be subject to different testing arrangements, and some tests may need to be conducted in overseas laboratories in case no suitable local facilities are available for the necessary testing. Longer time is needed to complete these tests. The study is expected to be completed in 2020. \$4 million has been earmarked for the study.

Upon completion of the study, AFCD will analyse the findings to assess the situation of pet food safety in Hong Kong with a view to mapping out the way forward.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)314

(Question Serial No. 4448)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Fisheries Development Loan Fund (FDLF) was set up in 1960. Why was the number of loans surged from 390 in 2017 to 610 in 2018, marking an increase of 56%? What were the reasons for the surge of number of loans? For what purpose(s) did the loan borrowers use the loans? What was the number of FDLF cases which involved loan borrowers used their own properties as collateral over the past 3 years and the reasons for applying for the loans?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)

Reply:

The increase in the number of loans in 2018 was attributable to the increase in demand from fishermen for fishing moratorium loans under the Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund to tide over the moratorium implemented in the South China Sea and make preparations for the resumption of fishing operations after the moratorium.

Over the past 3 years, no fishermen used their own properties as collaterals under the Fisheries Development Loan Fund.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)315

(Question Serial No. 4458)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
(3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the operation of the “animal management centres”, would the Government advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) the respective expenditures involved in the operation of the “animal management centres”;
- (b) whether the Government would consider opening some of the “animal management centres” to the public for animal rehoming;
- (c) the name(s) and quantities of the drug(s) used in euthanasia as well as the expenditures involved in releasing animals, such as wild pigs and monkeys, to the countryside by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past 3 years;
- (d) the numbers of animals died in the animal management centres or during the release to the countryside over the past 3 years;
- (e) the total numbers of dogs received by AFCD each year, the channels through which the dogs were received and their respective numbers, the way(s) the Department handled such dogs and the numbers of dogs eventually euthanised, rehomed, neutered and returned, as well as directly released back to their habitats over the past 3 years;
- (f) the expenditures and manpower involved in handling the dogs received over the past 3 years as well as the estimated expenditure and manpower for handling the dogs received in 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 89)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) currently operates 4 Animal Management Centres (AMCs) in the New Territories North (NTN), the New Territories South (NTS), Kowloon (K) and Hong Kong Island (HK) respectively. In 2018-19, the expenditure (revised estimate) involved in operating the 4 AMCs is tabulated as follows:

AMC	Expenditure (\$ million)
AMC/NTN	24.8
AMC/NTS	19.0
AMC/K	22.9
AMC/HK	17.1

- (b) At present, AFCD partners with 17 animal welfare organisations (AWOs) to provide rehoming services for animals caught or received by AFCD. These AWOs form a wide network across the territory to service adopters in different regions. To further promote animal adoption, AFCD will continue its efforts in inviting more AWOs to be rehoming partners. In addition, AFCD will continue to provide funding support to AWOs for their animal welfare projects including for rehoming. Furthermore, AFCD is planning to set up an animal rehoming facility in the proposed Animal Management and Animal Welfare Building Complex in Kowloon East with a view to complementing partner AWOs in providing rehoming services and enhancing promotional and education activities related to adoption.
- (c) Ketamine, Xylazine and Pentobarbital Sodium are used for euthanasia purpose. The dosage generally depends on the species, weight and age of the animals concerned.

There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure specifically earmarked for releasing wild animals, such as wild pigs and monkeys, to the countryside as it forms an integral part of AFCD's work on wild animal management, which is under the policy purview of the Environment Bureau.

- (d) The number of animals euthanised by AMCs over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	The number of animals euthanised		
	Dogs	Cats	Others*
2016	1 814	449	748
2017	1 478	381	801
2018	1 026	333	5 007 [#]

* Including small mammals (rabbits, hamsters, chinchillas, guinea pigs and rats), reptiles, pigs / cattle, poultry / birds, etc.

[#] The increased number was mainly due to more animals confiscated under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) and birds seized and culled upon detection of avian influenza in Yuen Po Street Bird Garden in April 2018.

No wild pig or monkey died during the release to the countryside over the past 3 years. Except for animals euthanised, AFCD does not maintain the number of animals died in AMCs due to other reasons.

- (e) The number of dogs received and handled by AFCD over the past 3 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Stray dogs caught	Dogs given up by owners	Dogs received through other channels	Dogs reclaimed by owners	Dogs rehomed	Dogs euthanised
2016	1 919	1 003	343	637	513	1 814
2017	1 566	1 024	336	560	588	1 478
2018	1 235	715	304	512	577	1 026

Stray dogs caught will be put in AMCs for observation. For those with a microchip implanted, AMCs will try to locate their owners based on the information on their records. In general, these dogs will stay in AMCs for about 10 to 20 days. AMCs will keep the non-microchipped ones for at least 4 days to allow time for their owners to reclaim them. In cases where the dogs being left unclaimed are in good health and assessed by a veterinary surgeon as having a gentle temperament and suitable for adoption, AFCD will arrange their transfer to AWOs for adoption by members of the public. Only dogs that remain unclaimed or not adopted at the end of the process will be euthanised.

The 3-year Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme for stray dogs at the 2 trial sites in Cheung Chau and Yuen Long, ended in early 2018, was conducted by two AWOs. A total of 102 dogs were neutered and returned to the 2 trial sites. This figure is not included in the above table.

- (f) AFCD does not have a separate breakdown on the expenditure and manpower for the management of stray dogs. The expenditure and manpower involved in handling animals caught over the past 3 years and the estimated expenditure and manpower earmarked for 2019-20 are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Expenditure on handling stray animals caught (\$ million)	Manpower (number of staff)
2016-17	3.4	187
2017-18	3.6	187
2018-19 (revised estimate)	4.0	188
2019-20 (estimate)	4.0	188

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)316

(Question Serial No. 3489)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market has been operating at the existing location “temporarily” for 40 years. Most part of the site is in fact zoned as “Open Space”. Please advise on the resources involved in studying the permanent re-provisioning of the temporary market over the past 3 years and the forthcoming year. When will the consultancy study on the existing functions and use of its wholesale business in the sale of fresh food be completed?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 69)

Reply:

Over the past years, we have been looking for a suitable site for the relocation of the Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Wholesale Poultry Market (CSWTWPM). In 2018, the Civil Engineering and Development Department commissioned a consultancy study on the technical feasibility of potential sites for relocation of a number of wholesale markets, including CSWTWPM, to northwest Tsing Yi. The study is expected to be completed in 2020. We will decide the way forward on the relocation of CSWTWPM, having regard to the outcome of the above study and other relevant considerations.

\$28.8 million has been earmarked for the above study. As the study covers a number of wholesale markets, a separate breakdown of the consultancy fee for the part on CSWTWPM is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)317

(Question Serial No. 3490)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What were the subventions received by various animal welfare organisations (AWOs) over the past 3 years? In 2019-20, the estimated subventions to be granted to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and AWOs increase to \$1.5 million. Please advise on the reasons for the increase of the subventions and the amounts of subvention to be received by various AWOs.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been collaborating with animal welfare organisations (AWOs) to enhance animal welfare and promote better animal management. Recognising that most AWOs are non-profit making with limited resources, the Government has since 2011 been providing subvention to these AWOs in supporting their work as long as resources can accommodate. As the subvention has been able to strengthen AWOs' capacity in animal welfare work, after reviewing the needs of AWOs and the resources implications, we have increased the subvention amount with a view to enhancing our support to AWOs' work. The increased subvention amount will apply to projects approved in 2018-19, with disbursements to be made in 2019-20.

The amounts of subvention received by AWOs over the past 3 years are tabulated at the **Annex**.

Apart from the subvention to various AWOs mentioned above, AFCD has also been providing subvention to the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) (SPCA). The annual provision for the subvention to SPCA has been set at \$1 million for the past few years. The subvention granted to SPCA is to support programmes related to stray animal management, combat animal cruelty, organise public education on animal welfare as well as relevant training and seminars for public officers and interested groups.

As the scope and the costs of the various subvented programmes and activities have increased over the past years, we have also increased the subvention with effect from 2019-20 with a view to enhancing our support to SPCA for carrying out programmes and activities that are conducive to enhancing animal welfare and promoting better animal management.

- End -

Subvention to animal welfare organisations (AWOs)

(i) Applied for in 2015-16 and released in 2016-17

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	73,934
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	125,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals (SAA)	38,591
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	41,620
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	16,365
9	SPCA	44,854
Total		513,364

(ii) Applied for in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	100,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	45,120
5	Hong Kong Cats	18,300
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
8	SAA	42,000
Total		494,022

(iii) Applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	45,000
10	Animal Friends	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	45,000
Total		570,811

* No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

(iv) Applied for and approved in 2018-19[#]

	AWO	Amount approved (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	120,000
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	250,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection	120,000
4	SAA	120,000
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	120,000
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	150,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	53,500
8	Hong Kong Cats	10,000
9	Kirsten's Zoo	120,000
10	Animal Friends	150,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	50,000
	Total	1,263,500

[#]The subvention will be released in 2019-20.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)318

(Question Serial No. 3491)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the details of “strengthening measures for stray animals management” as mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20? In view of the criticism from Committee members of different parties regarding the 3-year “Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme for stray dogs” being too short for effectiveness to be evaluated, would the Government consider reintroducing the programme?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) implements various measures to strengthen the management of stray animals. These include:

- (a) actively promoting the serious responsibility and commitment that go with pet keeping, through public education and publicity programmes to disseminate messages on proper care of animals and responsible pet ownership;
- (b) enhancing enforcement against pet owners in contravention of relevant legislation;
- (c) strengthening collaboration with, and providing technical and financial support to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in re-homing of animals and carrying out activities relating to animal welfare and management; and
- (d) implementing the long-term strategy for the management of stray cattle in collaboration with the relevant AWOs and local communities.

The 3-year Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) trial programme for stray dogs conducted at the 2 trial sites in Cheung Chau and Yuen Long by 2 AWOs since early 2015 was completed in January 2018. Although the 3-year trial programme has been completed, the 2 concerned

AWOs have agreed to continue to monitor the situation, and provide us with the information on changes of the population and the average lifespan of these dogs in the coming years. We would make use of the data provided by the 2 AWOs for further assessment of the effectiveness of the programme.

While the trial programme did not achieve the predetermined performance targets, AFCD keeps an open mind towards rendering assistance to AWOs in conducting similar programmes in other specific locations. To this end, AFCD issued letters to AWOs inviting their views on sites that may be suitable for conducting the TNR programme in November 2018. The letter is also available on our thematic website (www.pets.gov.hk). We will consider a range of factors, including population density, community facilities in the vicinity, and traffic condition, in order to determine if a specific location is suitable for conducting such a programme. If a location is found suitable, AFCD will facilitate the liaison between the coordinating AWOs and the District Councils concerned as well as the local stakeholders in order to introduce the programme, with a view to enlisting their support, and seeking approval from the Legislative Council for the relevant legislative exemption.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)319

(Question Serial No. 3652)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Would the Bureau provide the dates, purposes and modes of establishment of the following funds, as well as their balances, amounts of Government injection, investments or other incomes, and total expenditures in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18? If there are other funds under the ambit of the Bureau but not included below, please also provide the above information.
- (i) Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund;
 - (ii) Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund;
 - (iii) Fisheries Development Loan Fund;
 - (iv) Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund (FMOLF) including the Fishing Moratorium Loan Scheme set up under FMOLF;
 - (v) J.E. Joseph Trust Fund;
 - (vi) Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund;
 - (vii) Marine Fish Scholarship Fund;
 - (viii) Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund;
 - (xi) Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund;
 - (x) Vegetable Marketing Organization Agricultural Development Fund;
 - (xi) Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund; and
 - (xii) World Refugee Year Loan Fund.
- (b) How does the Bureau assess and monitor the situation of funding support of the funds under its management currently, and is there any indicator for reviewing the effectiveness of the funding support? If yes, what is the latest situation? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) currently administers 12 funds related to the agriculture and fisheries sectors. The requested information about the funds is tabulated at **Annexes 1 and 2**.
- (b) On monitoring these 12 funds, AFCD compiles reports periodically on their applications, approvals, progress and the repayment situations. For the funds established by Statue / the Fish Marketing Organization / the Vegetable Marketing Organization, the audited financial statements in relation to the funds are tabled at the Legislative Council annually. Besides, the advisory committees of various funds also monitor the funds' management and provide advice on improving their effectiveness.

AFCD also conducts internal review on the administration of all the funds on a need basis taking into consideration the latest development of the agriculture and fisheries sectors and the utilisation of the funds. The funds generally serve the needs of these sectors and are in line with the policy direction of promoting their sustainable development.

- End -

Year of Establishment, Start-up Capital and Purpose of Various Funds

Item	Fund	Year of establishment / Modes of Establishment	Start-up capital (\$ million)	Purpose
1	Agricultural Products Scholarship Fund (APSF)	1978 / Established under the Agricultural Products (Marketing) Ordinance (Cap. 277)	1.0	To provide scholarships, grants and loans for the education and training of persons (including their families and dependents), who are employed in agriculture or agricultural product marketing sectors in Hong Kong; and persons who wish to enter the agriculture or agricultural product marketing sectors in Hong Kong.
2	Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere Loan Fund (CARELF)	1957 / Established by the Government on a donation	< 0.1	To provide loans to fishermen for repair or replacement of fishing vessels, gear and equipment, or improvement of their fishing business.
3	Fisheries Development Loan Fund (FDLF)	1960 / Established by the Government on the approval of the Finance Committee (FC)	2.0	To provide loans to fishermen and fish farmers for switching to more sustainable fisheries operations, carrying out projects that will reduce fuel consumption, or development of aquaculture.

Item	Fund	Year of establishment / Modes of Establishment	Start-up capital (\$ million)	Purpose
4	Fish Marketing Organization Loan Fund (FMOLF)	1946 / Established by the Fish Marketing Organization under the authority of the Marine Fish (Marketing) Ordinance (Cap. 291)	0.3	To provide loans to fishermen for repair or replacement of fishing vessels, gear and equipment, improvement of their fishing business, or assisting them to tide over the fishing moratorium and to prepare for resumption of fishing after the fishing moratorium.
5	J.E. Joseph Trust Fund (JEJTF)	1954 / Established under the J.E. Joseph Trust Fund Ordinance (Cap. 1067)	0.5	To provide loans to farmers for farm operation and/or development purposes.
6	Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund (KAALF)	1955 / Established under the Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund Ordinance (Cap. 1080)	0.5	To provide loans to farmers and fish farmers for operation or development of their farming or aquaculture business.
7	Marine Fish Scholarship Fund (MFSF)	1978 / Established under the Marine Fish (Marketing) Ordinance (Cap. 291)	1.0	To provide scholarships and grants for the education and training of persons who are employed in fisheries and fish marketing sectors in Hong Kong and their families and dependants, and persons who wish to enter these sectors.
8	Sustainable Agricultural Development Fund (SADF)	2016 / Established by the Government on the approval of FC	500.0	To provide funding support for fostering the sustainable development and enhancing the overall competitiveness of the agricultural sector.

Item	Fund	Year of establishment / Modes of Establishment	Start-up capital (\$ million)	Purpose
9	Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (SFDF)	2014 / Established by the Government on the approval of FC	500.0	To provide funding support to the fisheries sector to develop or switch to a sustainable or high value-added mode of operation as well as enhancing the overall competitiveness of the sector.
10	Vegetable Marketing Organization Agricultural Development Fund (VMOADF)	1988 / Established by the Vegetable Marketing Organization on the advice of the Marketing Advisory Board	5.0	To support various agricultural development projects and organisation of various promotional activities.
11	Vegetable Marketing Organization Loan Fund (VMOLF)	1953 / Established by the Vegetable Marketing Organization on the advice of the Marketing Advisory Board	0.2	To provide loans to vegetable farmers for farm operation and/or development purposes.
12	World Refugee Year Loan Fund (WRYLF)	1962 / Established by the Government on a donation	0.5 [^]	To provide loans to fishermen for repair or replacement of fishing vessels, gear and equipment, or improvement of their fishing business.

[^]According to our earliest available record.

Amount of Government injection, income, expenditure and fund balance of various funds related to the agricultural and fisheries sectors

Item	Fund	Government injection (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2018)	Calendar year								
			2016			2017			2018		
			Income [#] (\$ million)	Expenditure [^] (\$ million)	Fund balance (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2016)	Income [#] (\$ million)	Expenditure [^] (\$ million)	Fund balance (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Income [#] (\$ million)	Expenditure [^] (\$ million)	Fund balance (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2018)
1	APSF	-	<0.1	0.3	6.5	0.1	0.2	6.2	< 0.1	0.5	5.8
2	CARELF	-	<0.1	0.1	0.2	< 0.1	0.0	0.2	-	-	0.2
3	FDLF	1,100.0*	6.2	173.0	456.9	9.2	176.8	311.4	7.6	138.3	208.8
4	FMOLF [@]	60.0*	0.6	38.3	108.7	0.7	53.6	92.9	0.7	106.1	40.6
5	JEJTF	0.8	0.1	1.0	18.6	0.2	1.0	19.1	0.2	1.3	18.8
6	KAALF	2.0	0.1	4.0	10.8	0.1	4.2	10.7	0.1	3.3	11.4
7	MFSF	-	<0.1	0.4	4.7	< 0.1	0.1	4.6	< 0.1	0.4	4.2
8	SADF	500.0*	-	-	500.0	-	1.9	498.1	-	7.5	490.6
9	SFDF	500.0*	-	10.5	489.5	-	11.5	478.0	-	7.9	470.1
10	VMOADF	-	0.4	41.2	52.9	0.4	32.1	32.8	0.3	31.8	26.6
11	VMOLF	-	0.1	1.6	12.7	0.1	2.3	12.7	0.1	2.1	12.9
12	WRYLF	-	<0.1	0.0	2.0	< 0.1	0.0	2.0	< 0.1	-	2.0

* Government commitment

Including interest income from loan borrowers, bank deposits and Government bonds

^ Including grants / loans issued

@ Including the Fishing Moratorium Loan Scheme set up under FMOLF

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)320

(Question Serial No. 4244)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Given that the provision of quarantine service forms part of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's work, would the Government advise on the following:

- (a) the details of the quarantine service;
- (b) the flora and fauna as well as their products that currently require the Department's quarantine service in order to be exported to the Mainland; and
- (c) the manpower and estimated expenditure of the Department involved in the relevant work (please set out the number of staff by their posts in tabular form).

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 63)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) To facilitate the export of live animals and animal products, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) provides quarantine services by issuing animal health certificates, endorsing animal health certificates issued by registered veterinarians in Hong Kong, as well as issuing sanitary certificates for animal products, subject to the requirements from the importing countries / places. The types of animals and animal products that require AFCD's quarantine services for export to the Mainland are tabulated below.

Issue of Animal health certificates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Eel fry (ii) Horses (iii) Turtles (iv) Zoo animals (including fish, birds and mammals, etc.) (v) Laboratory mice
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Endorsement of animal health certificates	(i) Cats (ii) Dogs
Issue of sanitary certificates	(i) Hog meal (ii) Leather (iii) Feather (iv) Sea cucumber (v) Fish maw (vi) Coral (vii) Shark fin (viii) Mammoth tusk

AFCD also provides phytosanitary certification services to facilitate the export of plants and plant products. Currently, every export consignment of seeds, cereal grains, pulses, dried plant products and timber to the Mainland requires a phytosanitary certificate issued by AFCD.

- (c) Quarantine services are an integral part of AFCD's overall work in controlling diseases in animals and plants; safeguarding public health; and providing technical services. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure on providing such services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)321

(Question Serial No. 4503)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide a detailed breakdown of the following information for the past 5 years:

- (a) The total numbers of wild cattle in Hong Kong, and the respective numbers by districts (Lantau Island, Sai Kung/Ma On Shan, North East New Territories and Central New Territories).
- (b) The respective numbers of reports of road obstructions and nuisance caused by cattle in each of the above 4 districts, and the major affected areas.
- (c) The respective numbers of cattle that died of unnatural causes, such as car accidents and hunting, etc., in each of the above 4 districts.
- (d) The respective numbers of cattle that were born and died of natural causes in each of the above 4 districts.
- (e) The respective numbers of cattle that were captured, sterilised and relocated in each of the above 4 districts, as well as the sites for relocation.
- (f) Was the manpower of the Cattle Management Team sufficient for dealing with stray cattle in Hong Kong?
- (g) In addition, there was another wild cow who has died of intestinal congestion caused by its perpetual consumption of plastic bags. Does the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department have any plans to deter visitors from feeding cattle? If yes, what are the details, expected manpower and expenditure of the plan?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 211)

Reply:

- (a) According to a territory-wide population survey on stray cattle conducted in 2018, there were around 1 140 stray cattle in the rural areas of Hong Kong. The estimated number of stray cattle and their distribution are tabulated as follows:

	Estimated number of stray cattle (heads)				
	Lantau Island	Sai Kung / Ma On Shan	North East New Territories	Central New Territories	Total
Buffalo	120	0	0	40	160
Brown cattle	170	400	260	150	980
Total	290	400	260	190	1 140

- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) does not keep figures of cattle related road blockage complaints, but cattle related complaints such as nuisance, crop damage and potential threat to public safety are recorded. The number of cattle nuisance complaints received by district over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

District	Number of cattle related complaints received and followed up				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lantau Island	76	71	91	39	30
Sai Kung	12	13	11	10	9
Northeast and Central New Territories	25	19	22	14	43
Total	113	103	124	63	82

- (c) and (d) AFCD does not have the information requested.

- (e) AFCD adopts a multi-pronged approach for managing stray cattle. One of the key measures is the “Capture-Sterilisation-Relocation” (CSR programme) launched in late 2011, under which AFCD captures, sterilises and relocates stray cattle to remote locations, away from human settlements. The number of cattle handled under the CSR programme over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Captured [^] (heads)	Sterilised (heads)	Relocated / Returned [^] (heads)
2014	94	54	60
2015	88	16	70
2016	114	64	69
2017	105	43	72
2018	128	105	80

[^] Figures including repeated capture and relocation / return of the same cattle

The number of cattle caught by district is tabulated as follows:

District	Number of cattle caught (heads)				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lantau Island	43	21	33	24	27
Sai Kung	42	50	51	49	42
Northeast and Central New Territories	9	17	30	32	59
Total	94	88	114	105	128

- (f) AFCD will review from time to time the manpower of the Cattle Management Team to ensure that the issues related to stray cattle are dealt with promptly and properly.
- (g) AFCD does not encourage members of the public to feed stray cattle, even though it is not against the law. Stray cattle by nature forage in the wild. Providing food for cattle may affect their natural behaviour and survival instinct, causing them to become reliant on human for food. AFCD has put up publicity banners and posters to enhance public awareness of stray cattle and remind the public not to disturb or feed stray cattle when encountering them. The manpower and expenditure required are absorbed within AFCD's existing resources for stray cattle management.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)322****(Question Serial No. 4505)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide a detailed breakdown of the following information for the past 5 years:

- (a) The manpower, numbers of veterinary officers, as well as their annual pay adjustments and turnover rates, of the 4 animal management centres under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD).
- (b) In addition, the numbers of inspections of construction sites conducted by AFCD, the numbers of dogs found on construction sites, the numbers of licensed dogs on construction sites, and the numbers of dogs sent to the animal management centres upon completion of construction work, in accordance with the Code of Practice for Keeping Dogs on Construction Sites.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 213)

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) currently has 4 Animal Management Centres (AMCs) located in the New Territories North, the New Territories South, Kowloon and Hong Kong Island.

The staff establishment and turnover rate of the 4 AMCs over the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Establishment of the 4 AMCs* (Number of posts)		Turnover rate	
	Veterinary Officer	Technical / frontline staff	Veterinary Officer	Technical / frontline staff
2014-15	4	171	0%	2.9%
2015-16	4	175	0%	4.0%

Financial year	Establishment of the 4 AMCs* (Number of posts)		Turnover rate	
	Veterinary Officer	Technical / frontline staff	Veterinary Officer	Technical / frontline staff
2016-17	4	183	0%	4.9%
2017-18	4	183	0%	7.7%
2018-19	4	184	0%	9.8%

* The 4 AMCs are overseen by 1 Senior Veterinary Officer.

Salary adjustment for AFCD staff, including those in AMCs, follows the Government's established annual payment adjustment mechanism.

- (b) To safeguard the welfare of dogs kept on construction sites, AFCD has devised the "Code of Practice for Keeping Dogs on Construction Sites" which sets out measures to be taken for keeping dogs on such sites. The Code is regularly distributed to large construction companies in Hong Kong, with the most recent round in February 2019. Besides, upon receipt of complaints about dog nuisance near construction sites, AFCD inspects the sites and takes follow-up actions as appropriate, including catching the dogs, instituting prosecution against owners if there is sufficient evidence, and educating the personnel responsible for the construction sites. Over the past 3 years, AFCD conducted over 200 inspections each year to handle complaints near construction sites. AFCD does not have a separate breakdown on the number of dogs found on or near construction sites or sent to AMCs from such sites.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)323

(Question Serial No. 4506)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The estimated amount of subventions granted by the Department to animal welfare organisations (AWOs) in 2018-19 has been significantly increased by 2.5 times, amounting to \$1.5 million. Please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The list of AWOs funded by the Government and the amounts of subventions granted to them over the past 3 years, as well as the rationale behind the allocation of funding by the Department to the subject AWOs. Has the Department granted subventions to more AWOs?
- (b) How does the Department evaluate the effectiveness of AWOs?
- (c) In addition, the amount of subvention granted to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) has been increased from \$1 million to \$1.5 million. What are the reasons? Which aspect of animal welfare services is the additional amount of subvention used for?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 214)

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been collaborating with animal welfare organisations (AWOs) to enhance animal welfare and promote better animal management. Recognising that most AWOs are non-profit making with limited resources, the Government has since 2011 been providing subvention to these AWOs in supporting their work as long as resources can accommodate. As the subvention has been able to strengthen AWOs' capacity in animal welfare work, after reviewing the needs of AWOs and the resources implications, we have increased the subvention amount with a view to enhancing our support to AWOs' work. The increased subvention amount will apply to projects approved in 2018-19, with disbursements to be made in 2019-20.

The eligibility criteria for application for subvention are set out at **Annex 1**. Only applicants that fulfil the criteria and with applications that are project-based and directly related to the promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management will be considered by AFCD. When vetting applications, AFCD will assess -

- (i) the objective(s) and expected result(s) of the proposed project;
- (ii) cost-effectiveness of the project; and
- (iii) reasonableness of the proposed expenditure.

Interested AWOs may submit their applications together with details of their animal welfare initiatives, estimated budget, and the associated performance indicators under the proposed programme to AFCD for consideration.

The amounts of subvention received by AWOs over the past 3 years are set out at **Annex 2**. AFCD has been monitoring the implementation of the subvention scheme. Document review and audit inspections are conducted to monitor the implementation and assess the outcome of individual subvented programmes. Thus far, the results of all subvented programmes are found to be satisfactory.

Apart from the subvention to various AWOs mentioned above, AFCD has also been providing subvention to the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) (SPCA). The annual provision for the subvention to SPCA has been set at \$1 million for the past few years. The subvention granted to SPCA is to support programmes related to stray animal management, combat animal cruelty, organise public education on animal welfare as well as relevant training and seminars for public officers and interested groups. As the scope and the costs of the various subvented programmes and activities have increased over the past years, we have also increased the subvention with effect from 2019-20 with a view to enhancing our support to SPCA for carrying out programmes and activities that are conducive to enhancing animal welfare and promoting better animal management.

- End -

Eligibility criteria for application for subvention

- (1) The organisation must be:
 - (i) a society as defined by section 2(1) of the Societies Ordinance (Cap. 151) and registered under section 5A(1) of that Ordinance;
 - (ii) a company registered under the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) (or Cap. 32 as in force at the time of the registration); or
 - (iii) a body of persons, or charity, as defined by section 2(1) of the Registered Trustees Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 306) which has been granted a certificate of incorporation under section 4(1) of that Ordinance.
- (2) The organisation must also be a charitable institution or trust of a public character that is exempt from tax under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) (rehoming partners of AFCD who did not have charitable status when joining the scheme prior to March 2017 are exempted from this requirement).
- (3) The core services and activities of the organisation must be related to promotion of animal welfare and proper animal management and it must be actively engaged in such services/activities over the past 3 years or more (re-homing partners of AFCD are exempted from the 3-year requirement).
- (4) The organisation must be well-managed and properly constituted with good record keeping and accounting systems.
- (5) Organisations charging an adoption or re-homing fee must possess an exemption from holding an animal trader licence under section 5A of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B). For re-homing partners without charitable status, at least one individual acting on behalf of the organisation must possess the individual exemption.

Subvention to animal welfare organisations (AWOs)**(i) Applied for in 2015-16 and released in 2016-17**

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	73,934
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	125,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	100,000
4	Society for Abandoned Animals (SAA)	38,591
5	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	41,620
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	45,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
8	Hong Kong Cats	16,365
9	SPCA	44,854
Total		513,364

(ii) Applied for in 2016-17 and released in 2017-18)

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	84,602
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	100,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	45,120
5	Hong Kong Cats	18,300
6	Sai Kung Stray Friends	46,000
7	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
8	SAA	42,000
Total		494,022

(iii) Applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19

	AWO	Amount released (\$)
1	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	83,329
2	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	130,000
3	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	82,000
4	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	47,960
5	Sai Kung Stray Friends	48,000
6	Cheung Chau Animal Care	28,000
7	Hong Kong Cats	16,522
8	Hong Kong Paws Guardian	0*
9	Kirsten's Zoo	45,000
10	Animal Friends	45,000
11	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	45,000
Total		570,811

*No claims for reimbursement from the AWO concerned have been received.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)324

(Question Serial No. 4511)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It was estimated in the consultancy report on the development of the veterinary profession in Hong Kong published by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2017 that there were 681 600 pets in Hong Kong last year, among which about 510 000 were pet cats and dogs, marking an increase of nearly 80% within 10 years. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee on the following:

- (a) The numbers of veterinary surgeons registered under the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Ordinance in Hong Kong and among which the numbers of veterinary specialists over the past 5 years. (Please set out by specialisms.)
- (b) The numbers of general veterinary clinics, veterinary clinics in which surgeries can be conducted as well as those with veterinary specialists, broken down by the 18 districts of Hong Kong.
- (c) The numbers of complaints received by the Veterinary Surgeons Board by year, the major reasons for such complaints, the numbers of complaints accepted and then put under investigation, the number of substantiated cases of misconduct, the penalties imposed and whether there is any veterinary surgeon having his/her licences revoked due to the complaints.
- (d) The City University of Hong Kong began to offer the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine programme in the 2017/18 academic year, and the students of the programme are expected to take up their practical training in local veterinary clinics. Has the Department followed up such practical training?
- (e) Does the Department consider that the veterinary medicine programme can provide sufficient personnel to the industry to cope with the surging population of pets? If not, what measures does the Department put in place to appeal to foreign veterinary professionals to practise in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 219)

Reply:

- (a) The number of registered veterinary surgeons in Hong Kong at year-end of the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of registered veterinary surgeons
2014	746
2015	823
2016	861
2017	920
2018	988

The number of registered veterinary surgeons in Hong Kong who are authorised to advertise as, or profess to be, specialists at year-end of the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of authorised specialists
2014	9
2015	18
2016	24
2017	32
2018	39

Some veterinary surgeons have more than one specialty. Details of the specialities (showing position as at 31 December 2018) are tabulated as follows:

Speciality	Number of veterinary surgeons
Anesthesia and Analgesia	3
Avian Practice	2
Canine and Feline Practice	2
Companion Animals (Internal Medicine)	1
Dental Practice	1
Dermatology	2
Emergency and Critical Care	1
Equine Surgery	1
Exotic Companion Mammal Practice	2
Internal Medicine (Cardiology)	3
Internal Medicine (Oncology)	2
Neurology	1
Ophthalmology	4
Poultry Practice	1
Public Health and Food Hygiene	1
Public Health (Population Medicine)	1
Small Animal Internal Medicine	5
Small Animal Surgery	4

Speciality	Number of veterinary surgeons
Veterinary Pathology	5
Zoological Medicine	2

- (b) According to a consultancy study on the development of the veterinary profession in Hong Kong (the consultancy study) commissioned by the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong (VSB) in 2016, there were 146 private veterinary clinics in Hong Kong, of which 35 were located on Hong Kong Island, 5 in Kowloon East, 38 in Kowloon West, 29 in New Territories East, and 39 in New Territories West in mid-2016. Further breakdown on the locations is not available. The study also indicated that apart from general consultation (e.g. health examination, vaccination, microchipping), among the clinics, the vast majority (99.3%) provided routine/simple surgeries; about half (50.3%) provided advanced surgeries and about one-fifth (21.3%) provided specialty services.
- (c) All complaints against registered veterinary surgeons are handled by VSB in accordance with the Rules of the VSB (Disciplinary Proceedings) made under sections 6 and 18(3) of the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Ordinance (Cap. 529). The majority of the complaints were against the findings or process of diagnosis and treatment or surgery by the registered veterinary surgeons concerned. The number of complaints received by VSB and substantiated upon completion of disciplinary inquiry hearings over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Calendar year	Number of complaints received	Number of complaints dismissed after preliminary investigation	Number of complaints referred to disciplinary inquiry*	Number of inquiry hearings completed [^]	Number of complaints found substantiated upon inquiry hearings
2014	53	45	6	13	9
2015	57	42	12 [#]	3	3
2016	54	38	12 [#]	12	12
2017	56	33	0	8	4
2018	51	11	0	8	7

* All complaints received are handled by a Preliminary Investigation Committee for determining whether to make a recommendation to the Board for disciplinary inquiry or whether the case should be dismissed.

[^] Including complaint cases brought forward from previous years

[#] Figures are updated as per VSB's decision to refer complaints received in a particular year to disciplinary inquiry and such decisions may be not be made in the year when the complaints were received.

Information on the orders made for the above 35 complaints found substantiated over the past 5 years is tabulated as follows:

Order	Number of cases involved
Removal of name from the register for a period from 3 to 12 months	7

Order	Number of cases involved
Reprimand and compulsory participation in continuing professional development programme / professional seminar	25
Reprimand	2
Compulsory participation in continuing professional development programme	1
Total	35

- (d) The City University of Hong Kong (CityU) is offering a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine degree course, the programme of which includes practical training. CityU has informed VSB that accreditation of the programme by the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council is being conducted with a view to seeking VSB's recognition of the programme for registration of its graduates for practising in Hong Kong. VSB will continue to keep track of CityU's accreditation progress.
- (e) According to the consultancy study, the estimated veterinarian-to-pet (dogs and cats) ratio will drop from 1:620 between mid-2015 and mid-2016 to 1:523 in 2019. The veterinarian-to-pet ratio is a common indicator to assess the overall situation of veterinary services. A smaller ratio means that there are relatively more veterinary surgeons. Hong Kong's ratio is much lower than those in Singapore (1:2 543), the United Kingdom (1:2 374) and the United States of America (1:3 072). With locally trained veterinary surgeons expected to be available in a few years' time, Hong Kong's ratio should remain relatively low. This notwithstanding, VSB will continue to welcome overseas veterinary surgeons to seek to practise in Hong Kong.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)325

(Question Serial No. 4686)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the provision of infrastructural support to local farmers mentioned in this programme, please advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) The number of requests for assistance in identifying agricultural land or building agricultural structures received by the Department, and the number of cases referred to the Lands Department in 2018-19.
- (b) The number of cases of assistance successfully rendered in identifying agricultural land for rehabilitation, and the size of agricultural land for rehabilitation involved in 2018-19.
- (c) Was any statistical work on the size of agricultural land in each of 18 districts performed in the past year? If yes, what was the size of land for agricultural uses according to the Department's records, broken down by 18 districts?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 136)

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Farmers who wish to build agricultural structures on leasehold agricultural land must apply to the Lands Department (LandsD) for a Letter of Approval for Agricultural Structures. To facilitate application by farmers, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) provides one-stop services and receives application forms on behalf of LandsD for preliminary processing. In 2018, 51 applications were received by AFCD and referred to LandsD for further processing.

Separately, AFCD operates the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme (ALRS) through bringing owners of farmland and interested farmers together to

work out leasing agreements for the farmland. The relevant statistics of ALRS in 2018 are tabulated below.

Calendar year	Number of new applications	Number of successful cases	Area of farmland leased out (hectare)
2018	77	10	1.4

(c) The estimated area of agricultural land in active farming use by district in 2018 is tabulated below.

District	Estimated area in active farming use (hectare)*
North	290
Yuen Long	230
Tai Po	90
Tuen Mun	50
Islands	30
Sai Kung	20
Tsuen Wan	10
Others	20
Total	740*

* Rounded to the nearest 10 hectares

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)326

(Question Serial No. 4687)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
(Dr LEUNG Siu-fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the follow-up actions on the implementation of the legislation to ban trawling and better regulate fishing activities in Hong Kong waters among the Matters Requiring Special Attention under the programme, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Since the implementation of the legislation, what are the numbers of warnings issued, prosecutions instituted and conviction obtained against illegal trawling? What are the details on the penalties sentenced?
- (b) What is the law enforcement mechanism currently in place to combat illegal trawling (including the frequency of inspections conducted at sea, manpower deployed, reporting mechanism and the average time required to reach the subject fishing vessel)?
- (c) Is there any collaboration between the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and other law enforcement departments working at sea, such as the Marine Police and the Marine Department, to combat illegal trawling? If yes, please account for the details. If not, will consideration be made to enhance collaboration among various departments?
- (d) Since the implementation of the legislation till now, has there been any review conducted on the existing law enforcement mechanism, its effectiveness and the deterrent effect of the penalties? If yes, what are the findings of the review? If no review has been conducted, what are the reasons? Is there any plan as to when to conduct a review?
- (e) Over the past 12 months, what were the numbers of prosecutions instituted and warnings issued against Mainland fishermen trawling illegally within the waters of Hong Kong? Has the Government liaised with the relevant Mainland authorities and stepped up interception against such activities? If yes, please account for the details.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 137)

Reply:

- (a) The trawl ban in Hong Kong waters came into effect on 31 December 2012. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) takes prosecution action without warning if there is sufficient evidence of illegal fishing activities including trawling. As at end December 2018, there have been 36 successful prosecutions against trawling. The penalties handed down by the court range from a fine of \$2,000 to \$100,000 with individual offenders being sentenced to imprisonment ranging from 2 days to 2 months.
- (b) AFCD currently deploys 3 vessels for regular and targeted patrols against illegal fishing activities including trawling at random hours (including at nights and early mornings). In 2018, more than 1 600 patrols were conducted by AFCD. AFCD's staff, when discharging duties on other vessels, will also stay vigilant to any illegal fishing activities, and inform AFCD's enforcement unit and Marine Police for follow-up. Upon receipt of reports on illegal fishing activities including trawling, the law enforcement teams will proceed to the scene as soon as possible. Depending on the location of the subject vessel, the prevailing weather condition and the state of the law enforcement team, the time required for reaching the scene varies. We do not keep such statistics.
- (c) AFCD maintains close liaison with the Marine Police and the Marine Department to exchange information and intelligence on illegal fishing activities including trawling; and conducts joint law enforcement operations as appropriate. AFCD and the Marine Police will adjust the enforcement strategies from time to time in the light of circumstances and intelligence gathered in order to effectively combat illegal fishing activities.
- (d) Since the implementation of the trawl ban, the operations of AFCD and other law enforcement departments have proved to be effective. Prosecutions have been successfully instituted on a number of occasions. We consider that the existing statutory provisions under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) are already effective in combating the illegal fishing activities, and that the penalties imposed by the court, including fines and imprisonment, have deterrent effect. To enhance the effectiveness of the enforcement action, AFCD will explore the application of technology in its enforcement work, such as using real time satellite information to help identify fishing vessels.
- (e) AFCD will prosecute any fishermen (both local and non-local) involved in illegal fishing activities including trawling without warning if there is sufficient evidence. In 2018, 20 Mainland fishermen were arrested and prosecuted for trawling in Hong Kong waters. AFCD maintains close liaison and exchanges information with the relevant Mainland authorities (including Guangdong Provincial Marine and Fisheries Inspection Bureau) as well as conducts joint enforcement operation with them as part of our concerted efforts to combat illegal fishing activities at the boundary of Hong

Kong waters. If Mainland fishing vessels are found illegally fishing in Hong Kong waters but cannot be successfully intercepted within these waters, AFCD will, having regard to the circumstances, refer the cases to Mainland law enforcement agencies for follow-up.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)327****(Question Serial No. 6019)**Head: (48) Government LaboratorySubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

1) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Government Laboratory for which only some of the required information was provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

2) Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Government Laboratory for which the required information was not provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 263)Reply:

During the period from January to September 2018, the Government Laboratory had not received any request for information under the Code on Access to Information.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)328****(Question Serial No. 6365)**

Head: (48) Government Laboratory

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please provide the reasons for failure to complete examinations for food complaint cases within 25 working days in the past 5 years.
2. Please provide the information concerning examinations for food complaint cases completed in the past 5 years with a breakdown by food type.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1614)

Reply:

1. The time which the Government Laboratory (GL) requires to complete the testing and analysis of individual food complaint cases varies according to the number and type of samples involved, the number and complexity of the testing parameters, the overall workload, and the need to prioritise among different types of statutory testing. GL has been deploying its resources flexibly to complete the testing and analysis of food complaint cases within 25 working days as far as practicable. As shown in the table below, GL has more than fully met the performance target of testing of food complaint cases within 25 working days in the past 5 years.

Item	Year	Target	Actual
Testing of food complaint cases within 25 working days	2014	83%	88%
	2015	83%	89%
	2016	84%	85%
	2017	84%	90%
	2018	84%	93%

GL has been raising the performance target of testing of food complaint cases within 25 working days as far as practicable, and will raise it to 86% in 2019.

2. The numbers of tests for food complaint cases completed in the past 5 years, with a breakdown of food types, are as follows:

Food types	Number of tests (Number of food complaint cases)				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Meat, poultry, milk, aquatic products, and their related products	4 320 (1 387 cases)	5 866 (1 532 cases)	4 948 (1 270 cases)	6 283 (1 528 cases)	5 906 (1 480 cases)
Fruits, vegetables, cereals, and their related products	4 456 (665 cases)	4 389 (720 cases)	4 045 (645 cases)	3 413 (582 cases)	3 104 (586 cases)
Miscellaneous	4 002 (854 cases)	4 062 (937 cases)	3 429 (800 cases)	5 193 (1 007 cases)	3 839 (875 cases)
Total	12 778 (2 906 cases)	14 317 (3 189 cases)	12 422 (2 715 cases)	14 889 (3 117 cases)	12 849 (2 941 cases)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)329

(Question Serial No. 7217)

Head: (48) Government Laboratory

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Statutory Testing

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist (Dr SIN Wai-mei)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What is the amount of additional resources to be allocated to the Government Laboratory to increase its testing capability for on-going tests on the quality of food products in the market to ensure their compliance with health standards? What will be the respective amounts of resources allocated for the purchase of new equipment and recruitment of additional staff?

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

The estimated expenditure of the Government Laboratory (GL) on services relating to food safety is \$116.3 million in 2019-20, of which \$96.9 million is recurrent expenditure. The recurrent expenditure is increased by \$14.7 million for the enhancement of GL's testing services and creation of 4 civil service posts, including professional, technical and supporting staff. A capital allocation of \$19.4 million is for GL's procurement of equipment for food safety testing in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)330

(Question Serial No. 5575)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As stated in paragraph 169 of the Budget Speech, the Government will allocate more resources to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department for refurbishing its public toilets by phases, improving ventilation and other facilities, as well as enhancing their cleanliness and hygiene. It is estimated that a total expenditure of over \$600 million may be incurred, involving about 240 public toilets in the coming 5 years. Please advise on:

- (1) the details of the phases and improvement measures for refurbishing the public toilets;
- (2) the list of the 240 public toilets and the selection criteria for the public toilets to be refurbished; and
- (3) whether the Department will, apart from enhancing the cleanliness and hygiene of the public toilets to be refurbished, also improve other facilities, e.g. more unisex toilets, to address the needs of the elderly, the disabled and the transgender persons. What are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 406)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (1)-(2) About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We plan to commence refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation,

odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

- (3) If circumstances permit, the Department will provide accessible unisex toilets and universal toilets when the public toilets are refurbished.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)331

(Question Serial No. 5577)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on the number of prosecutions instituted against unlicensed hawkers by the Hawker Control Teams, as well as the number of successful prosecution cases, in the past 3 years. Please also advise on the operational expenses, manpower and full-year expenditure on salaries of the Hawker Control Teams in the past 3 years, as well as the estimated expenditure for 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 408)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

- End -

Number of prosecutions and convictions against unlicensed hawkers

Calendar Year	Number of prosecutions against unlicensed hawkers	Number of convictions against unlicensed hawkers*
2016	15 310	14 372
2017	6 402	6 270
2018	5 564	4 859

* Prosecution instituted in a year may be convicted in the following year.

Manpower and expenditure in hawker control

Financial Year	Manpower	Total Expenditure# (\$ million)
2016-17	2 243	1,108.8
2017-18	2 264	1,074.2
2018-19	2 264	1,148.0 (revised estimate)
2019-20	2 264	1,153.1 (estimate)

Enforcement against unlicensed hawkers is only part of the duties of hawker control staff. Further breakdown of salary expenditure is not available.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)332

(Question Serial No. 5578)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

How many unisex toilets are there in the territory? Please provide their addresses with a breakdown by the 18 districts. Does the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department have any plan to continuously increase the number of unisex toilets? If yes, please provide the details.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 409)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has 379 public toilets with accessible unisex toilets (AUTs) provision. A list of these toilets is provided at Annex. If circumstances permit, the Department will, based on "The Design Manual on Barrier Free Access 2008", provide AUTs at new public toilets or during reprovisioning or refurbishment of existing ones. Access to AUTs does not necessitate traversing an area reserved for one sex only.

- End -

List of Public Toilets with Accessible Unisex Toilets

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
1	Central/Western	Belcher's Street Public Toilet	Behind No.2-12 Belcher's Street, Sai Wan
2	Central/Western	Centre Street Public Toilet	Near Centre Street Market, First Street, Sai Ying Pun
3	Central/Western	Exchange Square Public Toilet	G/F of Exchange Square near Bus Terminus, Central
4	Central/Western	Hatton Road Public Toilet	Junction of Hatton Road & Harlech Road, Mid-levels
5	Central/Western	Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall Public Toilet	At rear of Hong Kong Park Indoor Game Hall, Central
6	Central/Western	Ice House Street Public Toilet	Opposite to No.16 Ice House Street, Central
7	Central/Western	In Ku Lane Public Toilet	No 8 In Ku Lane, Sheung Wan
8	Central/Western	Kennedy Road Public Toilet	Junction of Kennedy Road & Garden Road, Central
9	Central/Western	Kennedy Town Bus Terminus Sai Ning Street Public Toilet	Junction of Victoria Road and Sai Ning Street, Kennedy Town
10	Central/Western	Lan Kwai Fong Public Toilet	Lower level below Lan Kwai Fong Sitting-out Area, Central
11	Central/Western	Macau Ferry Bus Terminus Public Toilet	At side of Macau Ferry Bus Terminus, Sheung Wan
12	Central/Western	Man Fai Street Public Toilet	Junction of Man Fai Street & Man Kwong Street, Central
13	Central/Western	Man Yiu Street Public Toilet	Man Yiu Street near No. 7 Pier, Central
14	Central/Western	Pound Lane Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Junction of Pound Lane & Tai Ping Shan Street, Sheung Wan
15	Central/Western	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	2/F, Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No 470 Queen's Road West, Shek Tong Tsui
16	Central/Western	Smithfield Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	G/F, Smithfield Municipal Services Building, 12K Smithfield, Kennedy Town
17	Central/Western	Star Ferry Multi Storey Car-park Public Toilet	Junction of Edinburgh Place & Connaught Road Central, Central
18	Central/Western	Water Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Junction of Water Street and Pok Fu Lam Road, Sai Ying Pun

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
19	Central/Western	Wing Wo Street Public Toilet	Opposite to 23-27 Wing Wo Street, Central
20	Eastern	Hoi Ning Street Public Toilet	Junction of Hoi Ning Street and Hing Man Street
21	Eastern	Java Road Public Toilet	Java Road outside North Point Vehicular Ferry Pier
22	Eastern	Kam Wa Street Public Toilet	Junction of Kam Wa Street and Wang Wa Street
23	Eastern	Nam On Street Public Toilet	No. 81 Nam On Street
24	Eastern	Ning Foo Street Public Toilet	Ning Foo Street near Bus Terminus
25	Eastern	North Point Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	North Point Ferry Pier Public Transport Interchange
26	Eastern	Quarry Bay Market Public Toilet	No. 38 Quarry Bay Street
27	Eastern	Sheung On Street Public Toilet	Opposite to New World Bus Depot Sheung On Street
28	Eastern	Tong Shui Road Public Toilet	Junction of Tong Shui Road and Chun Yeung Street
29	Eastern	Tung Hei Road Public Toilet	No. 28 Tung Hei Road
30	Wan Chai	Amoy Street Public Toilet	G/F., The Aveune Phase 2, 200 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai
31	Wan Chai	Bowen Road Public Toilet	Bowen Road near Wan Chai Gap Road
32	Wan Chai	Canal Road Public Toilet	Junction of Canal Road and Lockhart Road (next to Wan Chai Fire Station)
33	Wan Chai	Cross Lane Public Toilet	Junction of Cross Lane and Bullock Lane
34	Wan Chai	Expo Drive East Public Toilet	Expo Drive East (next to Golden Bauhinia Square)
35	Wan Chai	Hing Fat Street Public Toilet	Hing Fat Street near the Entrance of Victoria Park
36	Wan Chai	Kat On Street Public Toilet	Junction of Kat On Street and Kennedy Street
37	Wan Chai	Moreton Terrace Public Toilet	Tung Lo Wan Drive (At side of Bus Terminus)
38	Wan Chai	Morrison Hill Road Public Toilet	Morrison Hill Road near Sports Road

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
39	Wan Chai	Sing Woo Road Public Toilet	Junction of Sing Woo Road and Yik Yam Street
40	Wan Chai	Southorn Centre Public Toilet	G/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road
41	Wan Chai	Tai Hang Road Public Toilet	Junction of Tai Hang Road & Lai Tak Tsuen Road
42	Wan Chai	Wan Chai Market Public Toilet	No. 258 Queen's Road East
43	Wan Chai	Wan Chai North Temporary Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Adjacent to Bus Terminus at Wan Chai Ferry Concourse
44	Wan Chai	Warren Street Public Toilet	Junction of Warren Street and Shepherd Street
45	Wan Chai	Wing Hing Street Public Toilet	No. 15 Wing Hing Street
46	Wan Chai	Wong Nai Chung Road Public Toilet	Opposite to 95 Wong Nai Chung Road
47	Southern	Apleichau Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Apleichau Municipal Services Building, No. 8 Hung Shing Street, Apleichau
48	Southern	Lee Lok Street Public Toilet	Junction of Lee Lok Street and Lee Wing Street, Apleichau
49	Southern	No.16 Aberdeen Main Road Public Toilet	No.16 Aberdeen Main Road, Aberdeen
50	Southern	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital Public Toilet	Pokfulam Road near Queen Mary Hospital
51	Southern	Repulse Bay Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Repulse Bay Road near Bus Terminus (opposite to No. 109 Repulse Bay Road)
52	Southern	Shek O Village Public Toilet	Shek O Village near Shek O Rocky Bay Beach Drainage Services Department Shek O Preliminary Treatment Works
53	Southern	Shum Wan Road Public Toilet	Shum Wan Road near Marine Police Station
54	Southern	Stanley Link Road Public Toilet	Stanley Link Road near Stanley Main Beach
55	Southern	Stanley Main Street Public Toilet	Stanley Pak Kan Village near Stanley Main Street

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
56	Southern	Stanley Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Stanley Municipal Services Building, Stanley Market Road
57	Southern	Stanley Waterfront Public Toilet	Stanley Waterfront
58	Southern	Wu Nam Street Public Toilet	Wu Nam Street near Aberdeen Bus Terminus
59	Southern	Yip Fat Street Public Toilet	Near No.12 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang
60	Kowloon City	Baker Street Public Toilet	No.65, Baker Street
61	Kowloon City	Dyer Avenue Public Toilet	No. 1, Dyer Avenue
62	Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue South Public Toilet	Junction of Gillies Avenue South and Station Lane
63	Kowloon City	Hok Yuen Street Public Toilet	No.12A, Hok Yuen Street
64	Kowloon City	Hung Hom Complex Public Toilet	1/F, Hung Hom Complex, 11 Ma Tai Wai Road
65	Kowloon City	Kowloon City Complex Public Toilet	1/F, Kowloon City Complex, Hau Wong Road
66	Kowloon City	Kowloon City Road Public Toilet	No. 3, Kowloon City Road
67	Kowloon City	Kowloon Tong Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Suffolk Road, Kowloon Tong
68	Kowloon City	Lung Kong Road Public Toilet	No. 30-32, Lung Kong Road
69	Kowloon City	Ma Tau Kok Road Public Toilet-cum-bathhouse	No. 180, Kowloon City Road
70	Kowloon City	New Hung Hom Ferry Pier Public Toilet	New Hung Hom Ferry Pier
71	Kowloon City	Pui Ching Road Public Toilet	No. 5, Pui Ching Road
72	Kowloon City	San Ma Tau Street Public Toilet	No. 30, San Ma Tau Street
73	Kowloon City	Shek Ku Lung Road Public Toilet	Junction of Shek Ku Lung Road and Carpenter Road
74	Kowloon City	Tung Tsing Road Public Toilet	Tung Tsing Road at side of Carpenter Road Park
75	Wong Tai Sin	Choi Hung Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Choi Hung Bus Terminus (opposite to Choi Hung Estate)
76	Wong Tai Sin	Hong Keung Street Public Toilet	Junction of Shung Ling Street & Hong Keung Street, San Po Kong

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
77	Wong Tai Sin	Lok Fu Public Toilet	Junction of Tung Tau Tsuen Road and Junction Road
78	Wong Tai Sin	Nga Tsin Wai Village Public Toilet	Tung Kwong Road outside Nga Tsin Wai Village
79	Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Village Public Toilet	No. 1 Lung Chi Path, Ngau Chi Wan
80	Wong Tai Sin	Sheung Yuen Street Public Toilet	G/F, Plaza Hollywood, Sheung Yuen Street
81	Yau Tsim	Battery Street Public Toilet	No. 42, Battery Street
82	Yau Tsim	Gascoigne Road Public Toilet	At side of Astor Plaza, junction of Gascoigne Road and Nathan Road
83	Yau Tsim	Jordan Road Public Toilet	Inside King George V Park, Jordan.
84	Yau Tsim	Lin Cheung Road Public Toilet	West Kowloon Station Bus Terminus
85	Yau Tsim	Market Street Public Toilet and Bathhouse	No. 1, Market Street
86	Yau Tsim	Parkes St. Public Toilet & Public Bathhouse	No. 107, Parkes Street
87	Yau Tsim	Science Museum Road Public Toilet	Concordia Plaza, 1 Science Museum Road
88	Yau Tsim	Shanghai Street/Waterloo Road Public Toilet	Junction of Shanghai Street & Waterloo Road
89	Yau Tsim	Tsim Sha Tsui East Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Tsim Sha Tsui East (Mody Road) Bus Terminus (next to Wing On Plaza)
90	Yau Tsim	Tsim Sha Tsui Ferry Concourse Public Toilet	Tsim Sha Tsui Ferry Concourse
91	Yau Tsim	Yau Ma Tei Market Public Toilet	Yau Ma Tei Market, No. 20, Kansu Street
92	Mong Kok	Anchor Street Playground Public Toilet	Anchor Street Playground
93	Mong Kok	Larch Street Public Toilet	105 Larch Street
94	Mong Kok	Luen Wan Road Public Toilet	Side of FEHD Kowloon Depot, Luen Wan Road
95	Mong Kok	Mong Kok Road Public Toilet	661B Shanghai Street, junction of Shanghai Street and Mong Kok Road (Inside Mong Kok Road Playground)
96	Mong Kok	Nelson Street Public Toilet	1024 Canton Road (near Mong Kok Langham Hotel)
97	Mong Kok	Pok Man Street Public Toilet	1 Sham Mong Road, Olympic Station

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
98	Mong Kok	Portland Street Public Toilet	193 Portland Street (near Langham Place Shopping Mall)
99	Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street Garden Public Toilet	Sai Yee Street Garden (near Newport Cinema)
100	Mong Kok	Sai Yee Street Public Toilet	188 Sai Yee Street (near Mong Kok Flower Market)
101	Sham Shui Po	Apliu Street Public Toilet	215 Apliu Street
102	Sham Shui Po	Cheung Shun Street Public Toilet	At side of No.22 Chueng Shun Street
103	Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Government Offices Public Toilet	19 Lai Wan Road
104	Sham Shui Po	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Mei Foo Sun Chuen Bus Terminus
105	Sham Shui Po	Nam Cheong Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	193 Nam Cheong Street
106	Sham Shui Po	Sai Chuen Road Public Toilet	4 Sai Chuen Road
107	Sham Shui Po	Tai Nan Street Public Toilet	Junction of Tai Nan Street & Boundary Street
108	Sham Shui Po	Tonkin Street Public Toilet	38A Tonkin Street
109	Sham Shui Po	Yee Kuk Street Public Toilet	557 Yee Kuk Street
110	Sham Shui Po	Yen Chow Street Public Toilet	75 Yen Chow Street
111	Kwun Tong	Cha Kwo Ling Road Public Toilet	At side of No.90 Cha Kwo Ling Main Street
112	Kwun Tong	Chun Wah Road Public Toilet	At Chun Wah Road Bus Terminus, Ngau Tau Kok
113	Kwun Tong	Hip Wo Street Interim Public Toilet	At side of Hip Wo Street Public Light Bus Terminus, Kwun Tong
114	Kwun Tong	Kei Yip Lane Public Toilet	Near Kwun Tong Ferry Pier Bus Terminus at Kei Yip Lane, Kwun Tong
115	Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Road Public Toilet	At Kwun Tong Road Bus Terminus
116	Kwun Tong	Lai Yip Street Public Toilet	At junction of Lai Yip Street & Wai Yip Street
117	Kwun Tong	Lei Yue Mun (Ling Nam Sun Tsuen) Public Toilet	At Lei Yue Mun Path Lei Yue Mun

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
118	Kwun Tong	Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	At entrance of Ma Wan Village Lei Yue Mun
119	Kwun Tong	Ngau Tau Kok Public Toilet / Bathhouse	At No.1 Ting Fu Street Ngau Tau Kok
120	Kwun Tong	Shung Yan Street Public Toilet	At side of No. 39, Shung Yan Street Kwun Tong
121	Tuen Mun	Chung Wong Toi Public Toilet	Chung Wong Toi
122	Tuen Mun	Fuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Fuk Hang Tsuen
123	Tuen Mun	Hung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Hung Cheung Road, Tuen Mun (at side of public car park)
124	Tuen Mun	Kin Fung Circuit Public Toilet	Kin Fung Circuit, Tuen Mun (near Ho Tin LRT station)
125	Tuen Mun	Kin Lung Street Public Toilet	Kin Lung Street, Tuen Mun (near Shek Pai Tau Playground)
126	Tuen Mun	Lam Tei Market Public Toilet	Lam Tei Market
127	Tuen Mun	Luen On San Tsuen Public Toilet	Luen On San Tsuen
128	Tuen Mun	Lung Kwu Tan Public Toilet	Lung Kwu Tan near Lung Kwu Tan Village Office
129	Tuen Mun	Po Tong Ha Tsuen Public Toilet	Po Tong Ha Tsuen
130	Tuen Mun	Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Siu Hang Tsuen
131	Tuen Mun	Siu Hong Public Toilet	Siu Hong Court near Ng Lau Road
132	Tuen Mun	So Kwun Wat Chan Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Chan Uk Tsuen, So Kwun Wat
133	Tuen Mun	Sun Fung Wai Public Toilet	Sun Fung Wai
134	Tuen Mun	Tin Hau Road Public Toilet	Tin Hau Temple Plaza near Tin Hau Road
135	Tuen Mun	Tin Hau Temple Plaza Public Toilet	Tin Hau Temple Plaza near Hung Cheung Road
136	Tuen Mun	Tseng Tau Chung Tsuen Public Toilet	Tseng Tau Chung Tsuen, Tuen Mun
137	Tuen Mun	Tsing Yeung Circuit Public Toilet	Tsing Yeung Circuit, Tuen Mun (at side of public car park)
138	Tuen Mun	Tsz Tin Tsuen Public Toilet (at side of RCP)	Tsz Tin Tsuen, at side of RCP

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
139	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Ferry Pier Public Toilet	Tuen Mun Ferry Pier, Tuen Mun
140	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange Public Toilet (Kowloon Bound)	Tuen Mun Road (Kowloon direction)
141	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange Public Toilet (Tuen Mun Bound)	Tuen Mun Road (Tuen Mun direction)
142	Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Tsz Tin Road Public Toilet	Tsz Tin Road, Tuen Mun, New Territories
143	Tuen Mun	Wo Ping San Tsuen Public Toilet	Siu Tong Raod, Wo Ping San Tsuen
144	Tuen Mun	Wu Shan Road Public Toilet	Wu Shan Road
145	Tuen Mun	Yeung Siu Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Yeung King Road, Tuen Mun (at side of Wealthy Villa)
146	Tuen Mun	Yip Wong Road Public Toilet	Yip Wong Road
147	North	Che Ping Street Public Toilet	In front of Sha Tau Kok Market, Che Ping Street, Sha Tau Kok
148	North	Chow Tin(1) Public Toilet	Chow Tin Tsuen, Ta Kwu Ling
149	North	Chuk Yuen Village Public Toilet	Chuk Yuen, Ta Kwu Ling
150	North	Fanling Lau Public Toilet	At side of Fanling Lau Garden, Fanling Lau Road, Fanling
151	North	Fanling Station Road Public Toilet	Inside Fanling Station Sitting-Out Area
152	North	Fanling Wai (South) Public Toilet	San Wan Raod in front of Nam Hing Tong, Fanling Wai (South)
153	North	Fanling Wai Public Toilet	At side of Fanling Wai Playground, Fanling Wai
154	North	Hang Tau (Ngai Yuen) Public Toilet	Hang Tau (Ngai Yuen Tsuen), Sheung Shui
155	North	Hang Tau Road Public Toilet	Opposite to No. 100 Hang Tau Road, Sheung Shui
156	North	Ho Sheung Heung Public Toilet (III)	At Side of Cycle Track, Ho Shueng Heung Pai Fung Road, Sheung Shui
157	North	Hung Leng Public Toilet	Hung Leng Tsuen in front of House No. 13E, Sha Tau Kok Road
158	North	Kam Tsin (North) Public Toilet	Kam Tsin Village (North), Kam Tsin Road, Sheung Shui

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
159	North	Kan Lung Wai Public Toilet	Kan Lung Wai, Lung Yeuk Tau, Fanling
160	North	Kwu Tung (Tiu Yuen) Public Toilet	Rear of Kwu Tung Vegetable Marketing & Credit Co-operative Society, Sheung Shui
161	North	Luen Cheong Street Public Toilet	Luen Cheong Street at side of footbridge NF252, Fanling
162	North	Lung Wan Street Public Toilet	Landmark North Bus Terminus, Lung Wan Street, Sheung Shui
163	North	Ma Mei Ha Public Toilet	Ma Mei Ha Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok Road
164	North	Ma Mei Ha Tsuen Public Toilet	Ma Mei Ha Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok Road
165	North	Man Kam To Public Toilet	Man Kam To Vehicle Holding Area
166	North	Nam Chung (Lo Uk) Public Toilet	Nam Chung Lo Uk Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok
167	North	Ngar Yiu Public Toilet	Ngar Yiu, Ta Kwu Ling
168	North	On Po Tsuen Public Toilet	On Po Tsuen Carpark, Sheung Shui
169	North	Ping Che Tsuen (2) Public Toilet	Junction of Ping Che Road and Ng Chau Road, Sha Tau Kok
170	North	Ping Yeung Old Village Public Toilet	Ping Yeung Sitting-Out Area, Ping Yeung Old Village, Sha Tau Kok
171	North	Po Kak Tsai, Lau Shui Heung Public Toilet	Po Kak Tsai, Lau Shui Heung, Fanling
172	North	San Shing Avenue Public Toilet	At junction of San Shing Avenue and Fu Hing Street, Sheung Shui
173	North	San Uk Ling Public Toilet	At side of House No 18, Lane 1, San Uk Ling Tsuen, Sheung Shui
174	North	San Uk Tsai Public Toilet	At side of San Uk Tsai (Greenland Garden), Sha Tau Kok Road
175	North	Sha Ling, Cheung Po Tau Public Toilet	Man Kam To Road at entrance to Cheung Po Tau, Sha Ling
176	North	Shan Tsui Public Toilet	At side of Shan Tsui Tsuen Rest Garden, Sha Tau Kok
177	North	Shek Tsai Ling Public Toilet	Ho Sheung Heung Road near Bor Lau Road, Sheung Shui
178	North	Shek Wu Hui Public Toilet	Sheung Shui Entry / Exit Hub, San Wan Road, Sheung Shui
179	North	Shek Wu San Tsuen Public Toilet	Shek Wu San Tsuen, Sheung Shui (near Ng Tung River)
180	North	Sheung Ma Tseuk Leng Public Toilet	At side of Ma Tseuk Leng Children's Playground, Sha Tau Kok

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
181	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark Public Toilet	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Carpark
182	North	Sheung Shui Tung Hing Road Public Toilet	Inside Sheung Shui Heung Sitting-out Area No.9
183	North	Sheung Shui Wai Po Sheung Tsuen Public Toilet	At side of Sheung Shui Heung Playground, Po Sheung Tsuen, Sheung Shui Wai
184	North	Sheung Shui Wai Wai Noi Tsuen Public Toilet	At side of Sheung Shui Heung Rural Area Committee, Wai Noi Tsuen, Sheung Shui Wai
185	North	Shung Him Tong Public Toilet	Entrance to Shung Him Tong Tsuen, Fanling
186	North	So Kwun Po Tsuen Public Toilet	At junction of San Wan Road & Chi Cheong Road, Sheung Shui
187	North	Tin Kwong Hui Temporary Wholesale Market On Lok Tsuen Public Toilet	At side of Tin Kong Hui Wholesale Market, On Lok Tsuen, Fanling
188	North	Tsiu Keng Pang Uk Public Toilet	Tsiu Keng Pang Uk, Sheung Shui
189	North	Tsung Pak Long (North) Public Toilet	Opposite to Tsung Pak Long Village Office, Sheung Shui
190	North	Wa Shan Tsuen Public Toilet	Wa Shan Tsuen, Sheung Shui
191	North	Wo Hing Tsuen Public Toilet	Carpark at side of Wo Hing Tsuen, Fanling
192	North	Wo Hop Shek Tsuen Public Toilet	Carpark at junction of Wo Hing Road and Tai Po Road, Fanling
193	North	Ying Pun Tsuen Public Toilet	Side of House No. 15, Ying Pun Sheung Tsuen, Sheung Shui
194	North	Yuen Ha Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Ha Tsuen, Ta Kwu Ling
195	North	Ng Uk Tsuen (Chung Chai Yuen) Public Toilet	Ng Uk Tsuen (Chung Chai Yuen)
196	Yuen Long	Chau Tau Tsuen Public Toilet	Chau Tau Tsuen, Chau Tau West Road, Lok Ma Chau, Yuen Long
197	Yuen Long	Chuk Hang Tsuen Public Toilet	Fan Kam Road, Pat Heung (Near Chuk Hang Tsuen Village Entrance) Yuen Long
198	Yuen Long	Chung Hau Tsuen (1) Public Toilet	Chung Hau Tsue, Yuen Long

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
199	Yuen Long	Chung Pak Nai (1) Public Toilet	Ngau Hom Shek, Sheung Pak Nai, Nim Wan Road, Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long
200	Yuen Long	Chung Pak Nai (2) Public Toilet	Nim Wan Road (Near Ha Pak Nai), Lau Fau Shan
201	Yuen Long	Fraser Village Public Toilet	Fraser Village, Tai Tong Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
202	Yuen Long	Fu Tso Tsuen Public Toilet	Deep Bay Road, Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long
203	Yuen Long	Fung Cheung Road Public Toilet	Fung Cheung Road (Near Fung Kam Street Sports Centre), Yuen Long
204	Yuen Long	Fung Kong Tsuen (Entrance) Public Toilet	Ping Ha Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
205	Yuen Long	Ha Che West Public Toilet	Ha Che Tsuen, Fan Kam Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
206	Yuen Long	Ha Mei San Tsuen Public Toilet	Ha Mei San Tsuen, Ha Mei San Tsuen Road, Yuen Long
207	Yuen Long	Ha Tsuen Shi, VMO Public Toilet	Ha Tsuen Shi, Tin Ha Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
208	Yuen Long	Ha Wan Tsuen Public Toilet	Ha Wan Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long
209	Yuen Long	Hang Mei Tsuen Public Toilet (Bio-treatment)	Hang Mei Tsuen, Ping Ha Road, Ping Shan, Yuen Long
210	Yuen Long	Hong King Street Public Toilet	Hong King Street (Next To Minibus Station), Yuen Long
211	Yuen Long	Hung Shui Kiu Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Tin Sam Road, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long
212	Yuen Long	Kam Hing Wai Public Toilet	Kam Hing Wai, Chi Ho Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
213	Yuen Long	Kam Sheung Road Public Toilet	Kam Sheung Road Public Transport Interchange Tung Wui Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
214	Yuen Long	Kam Tin Bor Tei Public Toilet	Kam Tin Bor Tei Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
215	Yuen Long	Kam Tin Market Public Toilet	Kam Tin Shing Mun San Tsuen (Next To Kam Tin Market), Kam Tin Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
216	Yuen Long	Ki Lun Shan Public Toilet	Ki Lun Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long
217	Yuen Long	Kik Yeung Road Public Toilet	Kik Yeung Road (Next To Bus Terminus), Yuen Long
218	Yuen Long	Ku Miu Cheung Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Cheung Uk Tsuen, Sheung Tsuen, Pat Heung, Yuen Long

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
219	Yuen Long	Kuk Ting Street Public Toilet	Kuk Ting Street Yuen Long
220	Yuen Long	Lau Fau Shan Roundabout Public Toilet (Vacuum Toilet)	Lau Fau Shan Road, Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long
221	Yuen Long	Lo Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Lo Uk Tsuen, Ping Ha Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
222	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (North) Public Toilet	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (North)
223	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (South) Public Toilet	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (South)
224	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Lookout Public Toilet	Lok Ma Chau (Lookout)
225	Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau PTI Public Toilet	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange
226	Yuen Long	Ma Tin Pok Public Toilet	Ma Tin Pok, Kiu Hing Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
227	Yuen Long	Ma Tin Tsuen Public Toilet	Ma Tin Tsuen, Ma Tin Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
228	Yuen Long	Mei Po Lung Tsuen Public Toilet	Mai Po Lung Tsuen, Mai Po Lung Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
229	Yuen Long	Nam Bin Wai Public Toilet	Nam Bin Wai Yuen Long Kau Hui Road, Yuen Long
230	Yuen Long	Ng Ka Tsuen Public Toilet	Ng Ka Tsuen, Kam Sheung Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
231	Yuen Long	Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen Public Toilet	Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
232	Yuen Long	Ngau Tam Mei East Public Toilet	Ngau Tam Mei Road, Ngau Tam Mei, Yuen Long
233	Yuen Long	Pah Sha Tsuen (1) Public Toilet	Pak Sha
234	Yuen Long	Pak Hok Chau Public Toilet	Tam Kon Chau, Tam Kon Chau Road, Mai Po, Yuen Long
235	Yuen Long	Pak Nai (Picnic spot) Public Toilet	Sheung Pak Nai, Nim Wan Road, Yuen Long
236	Yuen Long	Pang Ka Tsuen Public Toilet	Pang Ka Tsuen, Kam Tin Road, Yuen Long
237	Yuen Long	Ping Shan Sun Tsuen Public Toilet	Ping Shan San Tsuen, Ping Yeung Lane, Ping Shan, Yuen Long

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
238	Yuen Long	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (I)	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (I)
239	Yuen Long	Public Toilet at Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (II)	Hong Kong Management Area at the Shenzhen-Hong Kong Western Corridor (II)
240	Yuen Long	Sai Pin Wai (2) Public Toilet	Sai Pin Wai, Yuen Long
241	Yuen Long	San Sang Tsuen Public Toilet	San Sang Tsuen, Tin Ha Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
242	Yuen Long	San Tin Public Toilet	Castle Peak Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
243	Yuen Long	San Wai Public Toilet	San Wai, San Sik Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
244	Yuen Long	Sha Kiu Sheung Wan Public Toilet	Sha Kiu Tsuen, Deep Bay Road, Lau Fau Shan, Yuen Long
245	Yuen Long	Sham Chung Tsuen Public Toilet	Sham Chung Tsuen, Yuen Long
246	Yuen Long	Shan Pui Tsuen Public Toilet	Shan Pui Tsuen, Shan Pui Road, Yuen Long
247	Yuen Long	Shek Po Tsuen Public Toilet	Shek Po Tsuen, Shek Po Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
248	Yuen Long	Shui Bin Tsuen Public Toilet	Shui Pin Tsuen, Castle Peak Road-Ping Shan, Yuen Long
249	Yuen Long	Shui Lau Tin Tsuen Public Toilet	Shui Lau Tin Tsuen, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
250	Yuen Long	Shui Tsiu Lo Wai (2) Public Toilet	Shui Tsiu Lo Wai, Tai Tong Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
251	Yuen Long	Sik Kong Tsuen Public Toilet	Sik Kong Tsuen, Ha Mei Road, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long
252	Yuen Long	Siu Hom Tsuen Public Toilet	Siu Hum Tsuen, Ka Lung Road, San Tin, Yuen Long
253	Yuen Long	Small Traders New Village (1) Public Toilet	Siu Sheung San Tsuen, Tin Shing Wai, Yuen Long
254	Yuen Long	Tai Kei Leng Public Toilet	Tai Kei Leng, Tai Shu Ha Road East, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
255	Yuen Long	Tai Sang Wai (2) Public Toilet	Tai Sang Wai, Yuen Long
256	Yuen Long	Tai Shu Ha Public Toilet	Tai Shu Ha Road West, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
257	Yuen Long	Tai Tong Road Public Toilet and Bathhouse	Sai Ching Street (Near Manhattan Plaza), Yuen Long
258	Yuen Long	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Public Toilet	Tan Kwai Tsuen Road Garden, Tan Kwai Tsuen Road, Hung Shui Kiu, Yuen Long
259	Yuen Long	Tin Fuk Road Public Toilet	Tin Fuk Road, Tin Shui Wai
260	Yuen Long	Tin Sam Tsuen Public Toilet	Near the junction between Tin Ha Road and Hung Shui Kiu Tin Sam Road, Yuen Long
261	Yuen Long	Tin Shui Wai Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Tin Yan Road, Tin Shui Wai
262	Yuen Long	To Uk Tsuen Public Toilet	Nam Hing West Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
263	Yuen Long	Tong Tau Po Tsuen Public Toilet	Tong Tau Po Tsuen, Tai Shu Ha Road East, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
264	Yuen Long	Tsz Tong Tsuen Public Toilet	Tsz Tong Tsuen, Kam Sheung Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long
265	Yuen Long	Wang Yip Street Public Toilet	Tung Tau Industrial Area, Wang Yip Street East, Yuen Long
266	Yuen Long	Wang Yip Street South Public Toilet	Tung Tau Industrial Area, Wang Yip Street South, Yuen Long
267	Yuen Long	Wong Nai Tun (2) Public Toilet	Wong Nai Tun Tsuen, Shui Tsiu San Tsuen Road, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long
268	Yuen Long	Yuen Kong San Tsuen Public Toilet	Yuen Kong San Tsuen, Pat Heung Road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long
269	Tai Po	Cheung Shue Tan Village Site 1 Public Toilet	Cheung Shu Tan Village, Tai Po
270	Tai Po	Chong San Road Public Toilet	Chong San Road, Tai Po
271	Tai Po	Fong Ma Po Public Toilet	Fong Ma Po, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po
272	Tai Po	Kei Ling Ha Sun Wai Public Toilet	Kei Ling Ha Sun Wai
273	Tai Po	Ma Wo Public Toilet	Ma Wo Village, Tai Po
274	Tai Po	Nam Hang Public Toilet	Nam Hang Village, Tai Po
275	Tai Po	Nam Wa Po Public Toilet	Nam Wa Po, Tai Po (Near Tsung Tsin Church)
276	Tai Po	Pak Shing Street Public Toilet-cum-Bathhouse	Pak Shing Street, Tai Po
277	Tai Po	Tai Hang Public Toilet	Tai Hang Tsz Tong Tsuen, Tai Po
278	Tai Po	Tai Mei Tuk Public Toilet	Tai Mei Tuk Village, Tai Po

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
279	Tai Po	Tai Po Centre Public Toilet	Blk. 20, Tai Po Centre, Tai Po
280	Tai Po	Tai Po Market MTR Station Public Toilet	Tai Po Market Station, Tai Po
281	Tai Po	Tai Po Old Market Public Toilet	Tai Po Old Market, Tai Po
282	Tai Po	Tai Po Plaza Public Toilet	Tai Po Plaza, Tai Po
283	Tai Po	Tai Po Tau Village North Public Toilet	Tai Po Tau Village, Tai Po
284	Tai Po	Tai Wo Village Public Toilet	Tai Wo Village
285	Tai Po	Tat Wan Road Public Toilet	Tat Wan Road, Tai Po
286	Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet	Tung Ping Chau
287	Islands	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Arrival Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
288	Islands	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Arrival Private Car Clearance Plaza, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
289	Islands	Cheung Chau Peak Road Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Peak Road, Cheung Chau
290	Islands	Chung Hau Village Public Toilet, Mui Wo	Chung Hau Village, Mui Wo
291	Islands	Chung Hing Back Street Public Toilet	Chung Hing Back Street, Cheung Chau
292	Islands	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Departure Goods Vehicle Clearance Plaza, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
293	Islands	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza Public Toilet	Departure Private Car Clearance Plaza, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
294	Islands	Mui Wo Ferry Pier Public Toilet	Mui Wo Ferry Pier Road, Lantau
295	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Interchange Public Toilet	Ngong Ping Road Interchange, Ngong Ping, Lantau
296	Islands	Ngong Ping Road Public Toilet	Ngong Ping Road, Lantau
297	Islands	Pak Ngan Heung Public Toilet	Pak Ngan Heung, Lantau

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
298	Islands	Pak She Street Public Toilet	Pak She Street, Cheung Chau
299	Islands	Peng Chau Wing On Side Street Public Toilet cum Bathhouse	Wing On Side Street, Peng Chau
300	Islands	San Hing Back Street Public Toilet	San Hing Back Street, Cheung Chau
301	Islands	Shek Pik Public Toilet, Wang Pui Road, Lantau	Shek Pik Wang Pui Road, Lantau
302	Islands	Sheung Ling Pei Public Toilet	Sheung Ling Pei, Tung Chung
303	Islands	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Shun Fai Road Public Transport Interchange, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port
304	Islands	Sok Kwu Wan Public Toilet	Sok Kwu Wan Ferry Pier, Lamma
305	Islands	Tai O Road Public Toilet	Tai O Road, Tai O, Lantau
306	Islands	Tai O Tai Ping Street Public Toilet	Tai Ping Street, Tai O, Lantau
307	Islands	Tai Tei Tong Public Toilet	Tai Tei Tong, Lantau
308	Islands	Tat Tung Road Public Toilet	Tat Tung Road, Tung Chung
309	Islands	Tung Chung Hau Wong Temple Public Toilet	Hau Wong Temple, Tung Chung
310	Islands	Tung Chung Waterfront Promenade Public Toilet	Tung Chung Waterfront Road, Lantau
311	Islands	Yung Shue Wan Public Toilet	Yung Shue Wan Main Street, Yung Shue Wan, Lamma
312	Sai Kung	Boon Kin Village Public Toilet	Tin Ha Wan Road, near Lamp Post No. EA 1500
313	Sai Kung	Clear Water Bay Second Beach Carpark Public Toilet	Near Clear Water Bay Second Beach Car Park
314	Sai Kung	Duckling Hill Public Toilet	Duckling Hill
315	Sai Kung	Hang Hau PTI Public Toilet	Inside the public transport interchange at Hang Hau MTR Station
316	Sai Kung	Ho Chung Public Toilet	Near Ho Chung Car Park
317	Sai Kung	Luk Mei Tsuen Public Toilet	Luk Mei Tsuen, near Lamp post N9103
318	Sai Kung	Mang Kung Uk Lower Village Public Toilet	Mang Kung Uk Lower Village

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
319	Sai Kung	Nam Shan Village Public Toilet	At side of Nam Shan Village No. 27
320	Sai Kung	Pak Sha Wan Church Public Toilet	Pak Sha Wan Church
321	Sai Kung	Sheung Sze Wan Public Toilet	Sheung Sze Wan Village
322	Sai Kung	Sheung Yeung Public Toilet	Sheung Yeung Tsuen
323	Sai Kung	Ta Ku Ling Sun Tsuen Public Toilet	Ta Ku Ling Sun Tsuen No. 3A
324	Sai Kung	Tai Au Mun Public Toilet	Near Tai Au Mun Car Park
325	Sai Kung	Tai Wan Tsuen Public Toilet	Tai Mong Tsai Road, near Lamp post No. 2555-7
326	Sai Kung	Tiu Keng Leng PTI Public Toilet	Inside the public transport interchange at Tiu Keng Leng MTR Station
327	Sai Kung	Tsak Yue Wu Village Public Toilet	Tsak Yue Wu Village, near Lam post No. EA 0897
328	Sai Kung	Tsam Chuk Wan Public Toilet	Near the Anti-Japanese Martyrs Monuments in Tsam Chuk Wan
329	Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate Public Toilet	Chun Yat Street
330	Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Inside the public transport interchange at Tseung Kwan O MTR Station
331	Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Village Public Toilet	Opposite to Lamp Post No. EA 1064, Po Hong Road
332	Sai Kung	Tui Min Hoi (Chui Tong) Public Toilet	Tui Min Hoi (Chui Tong)
333	Sai Kung	Tun Cheung Upper Village Public Toilet	Tun Cheung Upper Village, near Lamp post
334	Sai Kung	Yan King Road Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Yan King Road Metro City Plaza II Bus Terminus
335	Sai Kung	Yi Chun Street Public Toilet	Yi Chun Street
336	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Ching Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Cheung Ching Bus Terminus
337	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Fai Road Public Toilet	Near Cheung Fai Road Promenade
338	Kwai Tsing	Cheung Tat Road Public Toilet	Near no.28 Cheung Tat Road
339	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Fong Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	New Kwai Fong Garden

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
340	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Hing Station Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Near Kwai Hing Government Building
341	Kwai Tsing	Kwai Shun Street Public Toilet	Kwai Shun Street near Kwai Shun Cooked food Market
342	Kwai Tsing	Lantau Link Viewing Platform Public Toilet	Lantau Link View Point carpark, North West Tsing Yi Interchange, Tsing Yi
343	Kwai Tsing	San Kwai Street Public Toilet	San Kwai Street near Training Centre Complex
344	Kwai Tsing	Shing Mun Road Public Toilet	Shing Mun Road, Kwai Chung
345	Kwai Tsing	Ta Chuen Ping Street Public Toilet	Ta Chuen Ping Street near Carpark
346	Kwai Tsing	Tai Lin Pai Road Public Toilet	Tai Lin Pai Road near Kung Yip Street
347	Kwai Tsing	Tai Yuen Street Public Toilet	Tai Yuen Street near Kwok Shui Road
348	Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road (I) Public Toilet	Tam Kon Shan Road near lamp post no. FB0659
349	Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road (II) Public Toilet	Next to No. 89 Tam Kon Shan Road
350	Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yi New Ferry Terminus Public Toilet	Tsing Yi New Ferry Terminus
351	Tsuen Wan	Chai Wan Kok Public Toilet	Junction of Chai Wan Kok and Hoi Shing Road, Tsuen Wan
352	Tsuen Wan	Heung Che Street Public Toilet	At Side of Heung Che Street Market, Tso Kung Square, Tsuen Wan
353	Tsuen Wan	Lo Wai Road Public Toilet	Lo Wai Road, Tsuen Wan
354	Tsuen Wan	Lung Yue Road Public Toilet	Near Yuen Tun Village, Lung Yue Road, Tsing Lung Tau
355	Tsuen Wan	Sham Tseng Public Toilet	Sham Tseng Tsuen Road, Sham Tseng
356	Tsuen Wan	Sunny Bay Public Toilet	Sunny Bay Public Transport Interchange
357	Tsuen Wan	Tai Ho Road Public Toilet	Opposite to entrance of Tsuen Wan West Rail Station, Tai Hoi Road, Tsuen Wan
358	Tsuen Wan	Tak Wah Park Public Toilet	Opposite to No. 67-95, Tsuen Wan Market Street, Tsuen Wan
359	Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan 13.5 Miles Public Toilet	Castle Peak Road (13.5 Milestone)

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
360	Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Car Park Building Public Toilet	G/F, Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building, Sai Lau Kok Road, Tsuen Wan
361	Tsuen Wan	Wang Lung Street Public Toilet	At side of no. 98 Wang Lung Street, Tsuen Wan
362	Sha Tin	30, Wo Liu Hang Road Public Toilet	30, Wo Liu Hang Road, Fo Tan
363	Sha Tin	Cheung Lek Mei Street Public Toilet	Near Fo Tan Nullah Cheung Lek Street, Fo Tan
364	Sha Tin	Fu Kin Street, Ha Keng Hau Village Public Toilet	Fu Kin Street, Ha Keng Hau Village Public Toilet
365	Sha Tin	Hin Kwai Lane, Hin Tin Village Public Toilet	Hin Kwai Lane near Hin Keng Street
366	Sha Tin	Hin Tin Street, Sheung Keng Hau Village Public Toilet	Hin Tin Street near Hin Keng Street
367	Sha Tin	Kak Tin Street Public Toilet	Ha Kak Tin Village, Tai Wai
368	Sha Tin	Kwei Tei Street Public Toilet	10-14, Kwei Tei Street, Fo Tan
369	Sha Tin	Ma Liu Shui Waterfront Public Toilet	Pak Shek Kok, Ma Liu Shui
370	Sha Tin	Ma Liu Shui off Tolo Highway Public Toilet	Near Ma Liu Shui Pier Off Tolo Highway
371	Sha Tin	Ngau Pei Sha Village Public Toilet	Junction of Sha Tin Wai Road & Ngau Pei Sha Street
372	Sha Tin	Science Park Road Public Toilet	Science Park Road, Ma Liu Shui
373	Sha Tin	Sha Tin Tau Public Toilet	Sha Tin Tau, Fung Shek Street, Sha Tin
374	Sha Tin	Shan Mei Street Public Toilet	Near Fo Tan Cooked Market Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan
375	Sha Tin	Siu Lek Yuen Village Public Toilet	Siu Lek Yuen, Kwong Sin Street, Sha Tin
376	Sha Tin	Shing Ho Road Public Toilet	31, Shing Ho Road, Tai Wai
377	Sha Tin	Tai Wai PTI Public Toilet	Adjoining Tai Wai Public Transport Interchange
378	Sha Tin	Tin Sum Village Public Toilet	Tin Sum Village Car Park, Tin Sum Street

Serial No.	District	Name of Public Toilet	Address
379	Sha Tin	University Station Public Toilet	University Station Cycling Entry / Exit Hub, Chak Cheung Street, Sha Tin, N.T.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)333****(Question Serial No. 5579)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: Not specifiedControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise on the number of yearly calendars, monthly calendars, Chinese New Year blessings, red packets, posters and pamphlets printed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, as well as the expenditure involved, in the past year.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 410)Reply:

In 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department printed about 2.58 million copies of calendars, Chinese New Year blessings, red packets, posters and leaflets for publicity purposes. The expenditure incurred was about \$3.8 million. Details are as follows -

Items	Volume (copies)	Expenditure (\$ million)
Calendars, Chinese New Year blessings and red packets for promotion of markets and food safety	263 000	0.2
Posters, leaflets and booklets for promotion of environmental hygiene, food safety and green burial	2 320 000	3.6
Total	2 583 000	3.8

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)334

(Question Serial No. 5069)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please set out the number of unlicensed hawkers arrested by the Department in each of the past 5 years.
2. Please set out the number of unlicensed hawkers prosecuted by the Department in each of the past 5 years.
3. Please set out the number of complaints against illegal hawking received by the Department in each of the past 5 years.
4. Please set out the number of food poisoning cases reported as a result of patronising unlicensed cooked food hawkers in each of the past 5 years.
5. Please set out the number of complaints about obstruction by unlicensed hawkers received by the Department in each of the past 5 years.
6. Will the Department re-issue hawker licences in 2019-20? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?
7. Will the Department designate new hawker areas at suitable locations in the territory in 2019-20? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?
8. Will the Department conduct studies on providing new public markets at suitable locations in the territory in 2019-20? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?
9. Will the Department carry out comprehensive improvement works for public markets, including full installation of air-conditioning and ventilation systems, improvement of hygiene, widening of passageways, upgrade of lighting, etc. in 2019-20? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 104)

Reply:

- 1-3. The information sought is provided at Annexes I-III.

4. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has over the years been taking stringent enforcement actions against unlicensed hawking activities involving the sale of cooked food. In the past 5 years, the Department has not received any reports of food poisoning cases as a result of patronising unlicensed cooked food hawkers.
5. Please refer to Annex III for the number of complaints against unlicensed hawking and obstruction. A further breakdown on obstruction is not available.
6. As at 31 December 2018, there were a total of 425 vacant hawker pitches suitable for allocation to eligible persons. The Department proposes to allocate the vacant pitches equally among 4 categories of applicants, namely (i) licensed newspaper hawkers; (ii) licensed itinerant hawkers; (iii) registered assistants with 5 years or more experience at the same hawker pitch; and (iv) members of the general public satisfying certain basic criteria. The allocation exercise is expected to commence in 2019 after consulting relevant District Councils. The work is performed by the Department with a team of 12 staff at an estimated annual expenditure of about \$6.7 million.
7. The Department's priority task is to re-allocate vacant pitches in existing fixed-pitch hawker areas to respond to the stakeholders' aspirations upon conclusion of the Hawker Assistance Scheme. We have no plan to set up new hawker areas at the moment.
- 8.&9. As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build 2 new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre. The Government has also initially identified suitable sites in the east of the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) for public markets. We are also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North NDA to build new markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets which will give the public more choices in purchasing fresh food.

In considering whether to build new public markets, the Government will take into account a host of factors, including demographic mix of the area, community needs, availability of market facilities and number of fresh provision retail outlets in the vicinity. On the suitability of any potential sites for a new public market when the need for it is confirmed, consideration will be given to their geographical location, existing and planned uses, usable area and ancillary transport facilities nearby, in order to ensure that, upon completion, the markets will be of a substantial scale and viability and that public finances and land resources can be optimised.

Separately, having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Department has proposed that, in the first phase of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The

pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for Aberdeen Market will set a model for future similar projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning of new markets and the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of new market and MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

Number of arrests taken out against unlicensed hawkers

Calendar year	No. of arrests
2014	7 424
2015	6 945
2016	4 420
2017	1 766
2018	1 435

Number of prosecutions taken out against unlicensed hawkers

Calendar year	No. of prosecutions
2014	26 025
2015	23 054
2016	15 310
2017	6 402
2018	5 564

Number of complaints against unlicensed hawking and obstruction

Calendar year	No. of complaints
2014	16 468
2015	13 428
2016	10 512
2017	10 729
2018	10 031

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)335

(Question Serial No. 5115)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the columbaria services of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of new niches available for interment of ashes of the deceased in the columbaria under the Department in the past 3 years and in 2019-20, with a breakdown by columbarium;
- (b) the number of cases currently on the waiting list for niches managed by the Department;
- (c) the average waiting time for interment of ashes in niches managed by the Department after cremation of the deceased in each of the past 3 years; and
- (d) the number of niches vacated for re-allocation each year after the relaxation of the cap on the number of sets of ashes that may be stored in a niche.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 202)

Reply:

- (a) The number of new niches in public columbaria available for allocation from 2016 to 2020 is provided as follows -

Location	Number of niches	Year of completion
Peng Chau Columbarium Extension	360	2018 (completed)
Hong Kong Cemeteries and Crematoria Office (part) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) at Wong Nai Chung Road, Wan Chai*	855	2019
Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun*	163 320	2019
Wo Hop Shek Cemetery (Phase 1), Fanling	44 000	2019
Cheung Chau Columbarium Extension	1 250	2020
Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery Extension	790	2020

* The Department plans to allocate about 20 000 niches in Tsang Tsui Columbarium (first phase) in Tuen Mun together with 855 niches in Wong Nai Chung Road Columbarium in Wan Chai in the coming niche allocation exercise tentatively scheduled for mid 2019.

- (b) New niches are allocated through computer balloting. Waiting list applies only to the allocation of niches returned to the Department. In end 2018, there were 35 693 applications on the waiting list.
- (c) The Department does not keep statistics on the average waiting time from cremation to the deposition of cremated ashes into public niches.
- (d) The Department has since January 2014 removed the cap on the number of sets of cremated ashes that may be placed in a public niche. The information sought is provided as follows -

Year	No. of niches returned
2014	8
2015	12
2016	4
2017	1
2018	3

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)336

(Question Serial No. 5459)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the burial services provided by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) the number of cases of using the Department's service of scattering of cremains in Gardens of Remembrance in each of the past 3 years;
- (b) the number of cases of using the Department's service of scattering of cremains at sea, as well as the utilisation rate of the service quota, in each of the past 3 years;
- (c) whether the Department will continue to increase the service capacity in 2019-20 (if yes, the details and the estimated expenditure in this respect; if no, the reason(s));
- (d) whether the Department has drawn up any plan for continuing the publicity work on scattering of cremains in Gardens of Remembrance and at sea in 2019-20; if yes, details of the plan, including a breakdown of the estimated expenditure by publicity channel or event, as well as the timetable and estimated indicators for the events concerned; if no, the reason(s);
- (e) the number of webpages dedicated to the memory of the deceased in the "memorial.gov.hk" website managed by the Department; the number of new memorial webpages created in each of the past 3 years; the number of visitors of the website in each of the past 3 years;
- (f) the manpower arrangement and estimated expenditure for the operation of the "memorial.gov.hk" website in 2019-20; whether the Department will consider reviewing the cost effectiveness of the website in 2019-20 and follow up the results and recommendations of the review (if yes, the work plan and timetable of the review; if no, the reason(s)).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 204)

Reply:

- (a) The number of cases on scattering cremated ashes in the Gardens of Remembrance managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in the past 3 years is as follows -

Calendar Year	Number of cases on scattering of ashes in Gardens of Remembrance
2016	4 004
2017	4 966
2018	5 352

- (b) The number of applications received and the utilisation rates of the free ferry service provided by the Department for scattering cremated ashes at sea in the past 3 years are as follows –

Calendar Year	Number of applications received	Service capacity	Utilisation rate
2016	850	1 175	72%
2017	906	1 175	77%
2018	878	1 225	72%

- (c) The Department reviews the service capacity for the free ferry service from time to time, and will consider increasing the service level should demand for the service so warrant.
- (d) In 2019-20, the Department will continue to take proactive efforts in promoting green burial, including scattering of cremated ashes in Gardens of Remembrance or at sea, the Internet Memorial Service (IMS) and the Green Burial Central Register. Publicity and public education will continue through different channels, including Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, promotion videos, posters and banners, a mobile app, a dedicated website and collaboration with non-governmental organisations and promotional activities at Senior Exhibitions, etc. The estimated amount of provision earmarked for promoting green burial in 2019-20 is about \$17.0 million.

While the total number of green burial cases handled by the Department has increased by about 29% from 2016 to 2018, it takes time for the community at large to accept green burial as a sustainable form of handling cremated human ashes. We will continue to improve the green burial facilities and services, engage community stakeholders for support and step up our publicity and public education efforts.

- (e) As at 31 December 2018, there were 12 528 memorial webpages for the deceased created under the IMS website provided by the Department. Information on the

number of newly created memorial webpages and hit count of such webpages in the past 3 years is provided as follows -

Calendar Year	Number of newly created memorial webpages	Hit count
2016	1 366	590 672
2017	1 493	675 947
2018	1 619	641 891

- (f) In 2019-20, the work of operating the IMS website as well as its new mobile app will continue to be absorbed by the Department's existing staff. The estimated amount of provision earmarked for maintaining the service is about \$0.42 million. The Department keeps under review the cost effectiveness of the IMS and will seek improvements as appropriate to better meet the needs of the users.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)337****(Question Serial No. 5764)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

- (a) Please advise on the number of vehicle trips declared for carrying vegetables to Hong Kong over the past 5 years? What were the vehicle types concerned (e.g. 5.5-ton box trucks, van-type light goods vehicles, etc.)?
- (b) What were the respective quantities of vegetables carried by each type of vehicles?

Vehicle type	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Number of trips declared	Quantity of vegetables carried to Hong Kong (tonnes)	Number of trips declared	Quantity of vegetables carried to Hong Kong (tonnes)	Number of trips declared	Quantity of vegetables carried to Hong Kong (tonnes)	Number of trips declared	Quantity of vegetables carried to Hong Kong (tonnes)	Number of trips declared	Quantity of vegetables carried to Hong Kong (tonnes)
5.5-ton box trucks										
Van-type light goods vehicles										
Others (please specify):										

- (c) What was the number of inspections conducted on each type of vehicles? How many cases of irregularities were identified?

Vehicle	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018

type	Number of inspections	Number of irregular cases	Number of inspections	Number of irregular cases	Number of inspections	Number of irregular cases	Number of inspections	Number of irregular cases	Number of inspections	Number of irregular cases
5.5-ton box trucks										
Van-type light goods vehicles										
Others (please specify):										

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference Number: 130)

Reply:

According to the data provided by the Census and Statistics Department, the amount of vegetables imported from the Mainland to Hong Kong in the past 5 years is as follows –

Year	2013 (tonnes)	2014 (tonnes)	2015 (tonnes)	2016 (tonnes)	2017 (tonnes)	2018 (tonnes)
Vegetables	761 636	756 685	765 533	789 345	821 781	844 367

The numbers of inspections of goods vehicles carrying imported vegetables from the Mainland by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 5 years are as follows –

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of inspections of goods vehicles carrying imported vegetables from the Mainland	34 736	33 898	33 643	28 004	24 415

The numbers of vegetable samples taken by CFS at the Man Kam To Control Point (MKTCP) for routine food surveillance and the numbers of samples with unsatisfactory results are as follows –

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of vegetable samples taken at MKTCP	14 656	16 229	16 157	16 283	15 643
Number of samples with unsatisfactory results	12	46	26	12	14

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)338****(Question Serial No. 5766)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Information in the recent years shows that more than half of the fresh vegetables from the Mainland are directly imported by food importers without going through the Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) or the wholesale food markets operated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD).

- a) Please list the major types of direct distribution channels, including supermarkets, wet markets, restaurants, food processing plants and caterers.
- b) Please provide the quantity of Mainland fresh vegetables supplied to Hong Kong via each of the above direct channel of distribution, and their respective shares of the total amount of fresh vegetables imported from the Mainland, in the past 5 years.

	Quantities of fresh vegetables imported from the Mainland (tonnes)					Respective shares of the total amount of fresh vegetables imported from the Mainland (%)				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Retail outlets of supermarkets										
Wet markets										
Restaurants										
Food processing plants										
Caterers										
Others Please specify: _____										
Total										

- c) Are vegetables from the above direct distribution channels sampled for testing to ensure compliance with the quality standards? If yes, please list the number of

sampling tests conducted in the past 5 years, and the number of cases of irregularities detected.

	Number of sampling tests on vegetables					Number of cases of irregularities				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Retail outlets of supermarkets										
Wet markets										
Restaurants										
Food processing plants										
Caterers										
Others Please specify: _____										
Total										

- d) Please provide the names of the 10 importers with the highest share of fresh vegetables imported from the Mainland in the past 5 years, and their respective quantities of import.

Names of importers	Respective quantities of fresh vegetables imported from the Mainland (tonnes)
2014	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
2015	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

2016	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
2017	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
2018	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	

- e) What other measures are in place to control the quality of Mainland fresh vegetables not distributed through the VMO or the wholesale food markets of the AFCD?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 132)

Reply:

Hong Kong is a free market. All along, imported vegetables may either be distributed through wholesale markets (including the wholesale markets operated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), the Cheung Sha Wan Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) or other private wholesalers) or sold directly at retail outlets (direct sale). According to the information from the Census and Statistics

Department, there were about 850 000 tonnes of imported vegetables in 2018. According to the information from AFCD, about 340 000 tonnes of vegetables were transacted through the wholesale markets operated by AFCD and the VMO in that year.

Whether vegetables are distributed through wholesalers is not relevant to safeguarding food safety. Wholesale markets primarily provide a trading platform for importers and retailers to facilitate business. All vegetables sold in Hong Kong for human consumption, regardless of whether the vegetables are distributed through the wholesale markets operated by AFCD or the VMO, are subject to local food safety regulatory mechanism.

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes samples of vegetables and their products at the import, wholesale and retail levels along a risk-based approach under its Food Surveillance Programme to safeguard food safety, regardless of whether the vegetables are distributed through wholesalers or are for direct sale. The numbers of samples of vegetables and their products taken for testing and the number of unsatisfactory samples from 2014 to 2018 are as follows –

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Number of samples taken	21 694	24 537	24 462	23 677	23 952	118 322
Number of unsatisfactory samples	40	97	65	26	44	272

The overall satisfactory rate of vegetables and their products in the past 5 years was 99.8%. The unsatisfactory samples were detected to have pesticide residues, preservatives or metallic contamination, etc. exceeding the relevant food safety standards.

CFS does not have statistics on the quantities and distribution channels of fresh imported vegetables by food traders.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)339

(Question Serial No. 5769)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

At present, the Government imposes control on certain imported foods of higher risks. For example, the import of game, meat, poultry and eggs has to be accompanied by official health certificates issued by the issuing authorities of sources recognised by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

- (a) Will the Department conduct regular inspection to food production bases and food processing plants? If yes, what are the inspection criteria?
- (b) Further to the previous question, what was the number of inspections conducted over the past 3 years?
- (c) If regular inspections are carried out, will food items be sampled for testing during inspection? If yes, what kind of tests will be performed (e.g. tests for chemical substances and bacteria)? What is the number of samples taken? How many of them failed to meet the import standards?
- (d) Are there any standards and requirements for food packaging products, such as the regulatory requirements on food contact materials laid down by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the European Union?
- (e) In approving the import of high-risk foods, apart from an official health certificate issued by the issuing authority of the place of origin, will the Department also require the place of origin to provide:
 - (i) information on the ingredients of the livestock feed in use;
 - (ii) environmental assessment reports on the local conditions (including assessment reports on soil, water quality, water filtration systems and sewerage); and
 - (iii) a list of the antibiotics used by the farm concerned/employed locally (to ensure no non-compliant use of antibiotics by the farm/in the place of origin)?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 135)

Reply:

(a) to (c) The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) adopts a risk-based approach in conducting inspections of food processing plants outside Hong Kong, taking into account factors such as import volume, previous testing results and related food incidents. In 2016, 2017 and 2018, CFS inspected 54, 57 and 44 food processing plants outside Hong Kong respectively. CFS does not take samples during these inspections, but collects samples of food at the import, wholesale and retail levels along a risk-based approach to safeguard food safety.

(d) The Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) (the Ordinance) stipulates that any food for sale for human consumption in Hong Kong must be fit for human consumption. It is an offence to sell food which is unfit for human consumption due to contamination by food contact materials.

(e) CFS implements the import control of certain foods of higher risks in accordance with the requirements stipulated in the subsidiary legislation under the Ordinance. Specifically, imports of milk, milk beverages and frozen confections require the prior permissions of the Department, whereas imports of game, meat, poultry and eggs have to be accompanied with official health certificates issued by the issuing authorities of sources recognised by the Department.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)340

(Question Serial No. 5770)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

At present, the Department only puts in place a mechanism requiring food manufacturers to provide food examination reports for each consignment of high-risk foods imported into Hong Kong. In future, will the Department consider making it a mandatory requirement to submit examination reports in respect of all imported packaged foods? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure? If no, are there any other measures to step up safety control of imported foods?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 136)

Reply:

The Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) (the Ordinance) stipulates that any food for sale for human consumption in Hong Kong must be fit for human consumption. Subsidiary legislation under the Ordinance regulates the imports of certain foods of higher risk, such as game, meat, poultry, eggs, milk, milk beverages and frozen confections. Imports of milk, milk beverages and frozen confections require the prior permissions of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), whereas imports of game, meat, poultry and eggs have to be accompanied with official health certificates issued by the issuing authorities of sources recognised by the Department.

To safeguard food safety, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Department takes food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels for testing under a risk-based approach, and takes appropriate follow-up actions regarding any unsatisfactory testing results, including tracing the food sources, advising vendors to stop selling and dispose of the implicated foods, and instituting prosecutions where there is sufficient evidence. In 2018, about 66 000 food samples were taken for testing, of which the overall satisfactory rate was 99.8%. CFS will continue to keep in view the international developments and measures relating to safeguarding food safety and optimise its food safety work on an ongoing basis.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)341****(Question Serial No. 5801)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

- (a) Please list the number of laboratory tests conducted by the Centre for Food Safety on antibiotic residues in foods of animal origin and the number of non-compliance cases over the past 5 years.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of laboratory tests					
Number of non-compliance cases					

- (b) Which types of food were involved in the non-compliance cases? What were their places of origin?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 186)Reply:

The numbers of samples of food of animal origin tested for antibiotic residues under the Centre for Food Safety's Food Surveillance Programme from 2014 to 2018 are as follows -

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of samples tested	2 673	2 910	2 792	2 894	2 512
Number of unsatisfactory samples	0	1	2	4	6

Of the aforementioned 13 unsatisfactory samples, 11 were aquatic products, 1 was meat product and 1 was honey. Their places of origin included Egypt, India, Mainland China, the Philippines and South Africa.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)342****(Question Serial No. 5808)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding its work in relation to the Code on Access to Information, will the Administration advise this Committee on the following:

- Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) for which only some of the required information was provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided; (ii) the reasons for providing some of the information only; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

- Concerning the requests for information under the Code on Access to Information received by the FEHD for which the required information was not provided, please state in table form: (i) the content of the requests refused; (ii) the reasons for refusal; and (iii) how the requests were eventually handled.

Year

(i) Content of the requests refused	(ii) Reasons for refusal	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 194)

Reply:

- 1) Among the requests under the Code on Access to Information (the Code) received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) from January to September 2018, there were 3 requests for which partial information was provided. The information sought is provided as follows -

(i) Content of the requests for which only some of the required information was provided	(ii) Reasons for providing some of the information only	(iii) How the requests were eventually handled
(1) Information related to details of complaints and enforcement actions against restaurants from 2012 to 2017	Having regard to paragraph 2.9(d) of the Code, the withheld information was “information which could only be made available by unreasonable diversion of a department’s resources”.	Other information sought was provided according to the time frame stipulated in the Code.
(2) Information on all current holders of food business licences	Having regard to paragraph 2.15 of the Code, the withheld information was related to “privacy of the individual”.	Other information sought was provided according to the time frame stipulated in the Code.
(3) Information on a complaint case	Having regard to paragraph 2.6(d) of the Code, the withheld information was “information which would be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege”.	Other information sought was provided according to the time frame stipulated in the Code.

- 2) From January to September 2018, no requests for information under the Code received by the Department were refused.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)343

(Question Serial No. 6302)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the number of cases in the past year in which conflicts happened during hawker raiding operations and reinforcement or police intervention was sought.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 351)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep statistics on the number of cases in which there were conflicts during hawker raiding operation and reinforcement or police intervention was sought.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)344****(Question Serial No. 6456)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the types of services currently outsourced by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the number of outsourced workers.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (LegCo internal reference no.: 355)

Reply:

The outsourced services procured by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) cover street cleansing (including public toilets cleansing), waste collection, market / hawker bazaar cleansing, market management and related services, municipal building cleansing, security guard, pest control and other services.

The number of workers employed by the Department's service contractors (as at 31 December 2018) is provided as follows -

Posts	Number of outsourced workers
Cleansing workmen	8 707
Toilet attendants	967
Security guards	520
Pest control and general workers	1 192
Total	11 386

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)345

(Question Serial No. 3953)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) What are the method(s) and instrument(s) used by the Department for taking samples from vegetables imported from the Mainland for testing at the Man Kam To Food Laboratory? Please also advise on the pesticides that can be detected, the time required for each test and the maximum number of samples that can be tested each day (i.e. total capacity).
- (b) Apart from the import level, how many vegetable samples are collected by the Department at the wholesale and retail levels? Where are these samples sent for testing?
- (c) Further to the previous question, what are the method(s) and instrument(s) used for collecting and testing fresh vegetable samples at the wholesale and retail levels? Please also advise on the pesticides that can be detected, the time required for each test and the maximum number of samples that can be tested by the relevant laboratory each day (i.e. total capacity).
- (d) What is the quantity of vegetables available in the market each year? What is the Department's target rate of testing (in terms of percentage)? What is the percentage of vegetables to be tested so that the result can be considered statistically significant?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1057)

Reply:

According to the information from the Census and Statistics Department, about 850 000 tonnes of vegetables were imported into Hong Kong in 2018. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department took about 23 950 samples of vegetables and their products for testing in that year, of which 16 970, 1 730 and 5 250 were collected from the import, wholesale and retail levels respectively.

While some of the vegetable samples collected at CFS' Man Kam To Food Control Facilities are sent to Man Kam To Food Laboratory (MKTFL) for testing of pesticide residues, the remaining samples of vegetables and their products collected at the import level, as well as those collected at the wholesale and retail levels, are sent to the Government Laboratory (GL) for comprehensive chemical analysis, including residues of pesticides covered under the Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap. 132CM), metallic contamination, preservatives, etc., and to the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch (PHLSB) of the Department of Health for microbiological testing. The number of samples which the aforementioned laboratories can handle each day and the time required for each test vary, depending on various factors including the complexity of the tests and the types of samples involved. MKTFL, GL and PHLSB strive their best to complete testing all types of samples within the shortest possible time.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)346****(Question Serial No. 4814)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

- (a) Are fresh, frozen and chilled fish and meat supplied to Hong Kong sampled for chemical or microbiological tests by the Department? If yes, what types of tests are conducted?
- (b) Further to the above question, how many samples were taken in each of the past 5 years? What was the respective number of samples taken at the import, wholesale and retail levels?
- (c) Where are the tests conducted? How many samples can the laboratory handle each day? What is the time required for each test?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1059)Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department took a total of 33 450 samples of fish and meat products, including imported fresh, frozen or chilled fish and meat, at the import, wholesale and retail levels for testing over the past 5 years along a risk-based approach under its Food Surveillance Programme. Breakdown of the numbers of samples taken at the respective levels by year is as follows –

	Calendar year					Total
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Import level	2 970	1 940	1 540	1 860	1 710	10 020
Wholesale level	90	90	140	90	130	540
Retail level	4 950	4 810	4 280	4 620	4 230	22 900
Total	8 010	6 850	5 950	6 570	6 070	33 450

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

The aforementioned food samples were sent to the Government Laboratory (GL) and the Public Health Laboratory Services Branch (PHLSB) of the Department of Health for comprehensive chemical analysis and microbiological testing respectively. The number of samples which they can handle each day and the time required for each test vary, depending on various factors including the complexity of the tests and the types of samples involved. GL and PHLSB strive their best to complete testing all types of samples within the shortest possible time.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)347

(Question Serial No. 6918)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the service of temporary storage of cremains provided by the Department, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) the number of cases with storage period longer than 2 months in the past 5 years;
- (2) the longest storage period;
- (3) whether there will be an increase in the expenditure for providing the service; if yes, the amount of the increase; and
- (4) the number of additional temporary storage facilities planned and their storage capacity.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7700)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) provides temporary storage services for human cremains in all its crematoria free of charge in the first 2 months following cremation. The duration may be extended upon application at a monthly fee of \$80. In the past 5 years, there were 3 889 cases in which the duration of temporary storage exceeded 2 months. The longest storage time was 54 months.

In 2019-20, the temporary storage services will be provided with existing resources. The estimated expenditure for cemeteries and crematoria services is about \$493 million. There is no separate breakdown for the temporary storage services.

The Department at present has a total of some 35 000 temporary storage spaces. Some 41 000 additional ones would be made available in the coming 2 years. The Department will keep the usage of such facilities under review.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)348****(Question Serial No. 6919)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: Not specifiedControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) the number of new public columbarium facilities provided in the past 5 years, as well as the locations and the number of new niches provided by these facilities (please present the information in tabular form);
- (2) further to the above question, the expenditure on these new public columbarium facilities;
- (3) the estimated expenditure for constructing public columbarium facilities in 2019-20; and
- (4) the number and locations of planned new niches.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7701)Reply:

(1) & (2) The information sought is provided as follows -

Location	Number of niches	Year of Completion	Project cost (\$ million)
Peng Chau Columbarium Extension	360	2018	1.20

(3) & (4) Details of public columbaria that are scheduled for completion in 2019 and 2020 are provided as follows -

Location	Number of niches	Anticipated Year of Completion	Estimated Project cost (\$ million)
Hong Kong Cemeteries and Crematoria Office (Part) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department at Wong Nai Chung Road, Wan Chai	855	2019	7.25
Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun	163 320	2019	2,874.30
Wo Hop Shek Cemetery (Phase 1), Fanling	44 000	2019	945.60
Cheung Chau Columbarium Extension	1 250	2020	5.10
Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery Extension	790	2020	23.35

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)349****(Question Serial No. 6920)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) with regard to the raids conducted by the Hawker Control Teams, the estimated expenditure involved and the number of raids conducted in each of the past 5 years, and the average number of in-house staff involved in each operation; and
- (2) with regard to the Department's action against hawker blackspots, the estimated expenditure involved and the number of operations conducted in each of the past 5 years, and the average number of in-house staff involved in each operation.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7703)Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the manpower involved in each hawker control operation or operation against hawker blackspots, which depends on the circumstances specific to each case. The number of raids and the expenditure on hawker management in the past 5 years is provided as follows

Calendar year	No. of raids	Financial year	Expenditure on hawker management (\$ million)
2014	124 684	2014-15	951.8
2015	116 702	2015-16	1,025.2
2016	117 045	2016-17	1,108.8
2017	120 059	2017-18	1,074.2
2018	118 068	2018-19	1,148.0 (revised estimate)

There is no further breakdown of the expenditure involved in conducting raids or action against hawker blackspots.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)350

(Question Serial No. 6921)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the number of raids conducted by the Hawker Control Teams during the first 5 days of the Chinese New Year in each of the past 5 years, as well as the average number of in-house staff and expenditure involved in each operation; and
- (2) the number of joint departmental operations against illegal hawking during the first 5 days of the Chinese New Year in each of the past 5 years, as well as the average number of in-house staff and expenditure involved in each operation.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7704)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the numbers of raids and joint operations against illegal hawking with other departments, or the manpower and expenditure involved in hawker control operations during the Lunar New Year period.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)351

(Question Serial No. 6922)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the number of joint departmental operations conducted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against illegal hawking, as well as the government departments involved, in each of the past 5 years; and
- (2) the criteria adopted by the Department in deciding whether the raids were conducted in the form of joint operation and what government departments were involved.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7705)

Reply:

Hawker management and enforcement duties are undertaken by the Hawker Control Team of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. Other government departments, such as the Hong Kong Police Force and the Housing Department, may be invited to assist in some of the operations. Whether the raids are conducted in the form of joint operation and whether other departments are involved depend on circumstances specific to each operation, including whether there is real or potential threat to law and order, and whether the operation involves illegal hawkers operating inside public housing estates, etc.

The number of joint operations against illegal hawking in the past 5 years is provided as follows -

Calendar year	Number of inter-departmental operations
2014	1 830
2015	1 984
2016	2 009
2017	1 951
2018	2 198

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)352

(Question Serial No. 6923)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the resources and manpower allocated by the Department for taking forward and promoting the new hawker policy, as well as the routine duties involved;
- (2) whether the Department has reviewed the effectiveness of the new hawker policy since its implementation, including striking a balance among the interests of District Councils, residents, tourists and hawkers; and whether the Department will take the initiative to mediate in stakeholders' disputes (if no, the reason(s));
- (3) the number of disputes or conflicts between law enforcement officers and hawkers or members of the public during raids and joint operations in each of the past 5 years; and whether there were any injuries during the operations (if yes, the number); and
- (4) whether the Department has reviewed the approaches adopted by law enforcement officers in raids and joint operations (if no, the reason(s)).

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7706)

Reply

- (1) Hawker management and control is carried out by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), involving a revised estimate of expenditure of about \$1,148 million in 2018-19. The Department does not keep separate breakdown on expenditure for specific duties relating to the management and control of hawkers.
- (2) The Subcommittee on Hawker Policy (the Subcommittee) set up under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene was briefed in March 2015 on the principles underpinning the Government's current policy on the management of hawkers. In gist, the Government seeks to formulate a hawker policy which can

strike an optimal balance between allowing licensed hawking business to thrive on the one hand, and meeting other legitimate concerns to ensure food safety, environmental hygiene, and public security on the other.

The Government adopts a positive attitude towards specific proposals put up by individuals / organisations in the community for organising bazaars. When suitable sites have been identified by the organisers concerned (i.e. the venue owners have no in-principle objection to the proposed bazaars being held at their venues at the proposed time slots) and support from local communities and respective District Councils have been obtained, provided that the bazaar proposals will not compromise public order and safety, food safety and environmental hygiene, or cause obstruction to public passageways, the Government will facilitate liaison with the relevant bureaux and departments regarding the use of the sites and application of the necessary permits or licences. Depending on the specific details of bazaar proposals, the bureaux concerned will, according to the roles they play, give comments on matters related to their policy areas respectively. The departments concerned will process bazaar proposals according to their procedures and criteria.

The Department plans to issue new fixed-pitch hawker licences in 2019. Upon the conclusion of the 5-year Assistance Scheme for Hawkers in Fixed-pitch Hawker Areas in June 2018, it is estimated that a total of 425 vacant hawker pitches will be available for allocation to eligible persons. The Department proposes to allocate these vacant pitches equally among 4 categories of applicants, namely, licensed newspaper hawkers, licensed itinerant hawkers, registered assistants with 5 years or more experience at the same hawker pitch and members of the general public satisfying certain basic criteria. The Department is now consulting the District Councils and stakeholders concerned, and expects the allocation exercise to commence in 2019.

- (3) The Department does not keep statistics on the number of disputes or conflicts between hawker control officers and hawkers or members of the public during raiding and joint operations. The number of hawker control team staff injured whilst on duty in the past 5 years is as follows -

Calendar year	No. of hawker control team staff injured
2014	36
2015	40
2016	44
2017	40
2018	30

- (4) To ensure that hawker management operations are effectively carried out, the Department has issued operational guidelines and provided regular refresher training courses to its staff covering issues such as safety consideration during raiding operations, arrest and prosecution procedures. The guidelines also state clearly that the safety of hawkers, passers-by and hawker control officers is of primary importance. These guidelines are reviewed from time to time in view of changes in operational requirements and feedback from staff.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)353****(Question Serial No. 6924)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise this Committee in tabular form of the following information in the past 5 years:

- (1) the quantities of “import of live food animals”; and
- (2) the respective quantities and places of origin as regards “import of live food animals”.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7707)Reply:

The number of live food animals imported into Hong Kong in the past 5 years and their places of origin are tabulated as follows –

	Quantity (head/number) imported into Hong Kong					Place of Origin
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Live cattle	18 602	17 911	17 493	17 338	17 162	Mainland China
Live goats	5 371	4 381	3 396	3 465	3 513	Mainland China
Live pigs	1 624 926	1 583 398	1 439 568	1 455 379	1 468 150	Mainland China
Live chickens	912 300	61 300	32 000	0	0	Mainland China
Other live poultry	327 056	465 305	590 598	76 720	0	Mainland China

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)354

(Question Serial No. 6925)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the “hawker blackspots” in the 18 districts and provide the definition of “hawker blackspot”. Please also provide the estimated number of “unlicensed hawkers” in the 18 districts over the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7708)

Reply:

The list of hawker blackspots in 18 districts is provided at Annex I. Hawker blackspots are locations where unlicensed hawkers congregate. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducts surveys quarterly to identify and update the list. Whether a certain location is classified as a hawker blackspot or not depends on the number of unlicensed hawkers trading at the location at any one time of the day during the surveys.

Information on the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in 18 districts over the past 5 years is provided at Annex II.

- End -

Location of Hawker Blackspots

District	Location
Central and Western	The vicinity of Statue Square and the Court of Final Appeal
	The vicinity of Charter Garden and Murray Road
	Footbridge along Connaught Road Central and its vicinity
Wan Chai	Wan Chai Road (between Johnston Road and Cross Street), Tai Yuen Street, Cross Street, Stone Nullah Lane (between Johnston Road and Cross Street) and the vicinity
	Bowrington Road (between Hennessy Road and Sharp Street West) and Wan Chai Road (between Canal Road West and Tin Lok Lane)
Eastern	Area near Chai Wan Market including the open space outside Walton Estate, Yee Shun Street, Yee Tai Street, Yee Fung Street and the lane in front of Winner Centre
	Kam Wa Street area including Mong Lung Street and Tai Tak Street
	Marble Road area including North Point MTR Exits, Kam Hong Street, Shu Kuk Street, a section of King's Road between Kam Hong Street and Tin Chiu Street as well as the vicinity of Java Road Market
	Chun Yeung Street area including North Point Road, Tong Shui Road, a section of King's Road around Kam Hong Street, and Fortress Hill MTR Exits
	Siu Sai Wan area along Siu Sai Wan Road from Bus Terminus up to Fullview Garden
	Kut Shing Street and Chai Wan Footbridge outside Chai Wan MTR Station
Southern	The streets around Sai Wan Ho Market including Tai On Street and section of Shau Kei Wan Road in front of Tai On Building, the vicinity of Quarry Bay Market including Quarry Bay Footbridge, a section of King's Road between Finnie Street and Hong On Street and outside Aeon area
	Pavement between Aberdeen West Typhoon Shelter and Aberdeen Promenade
Islands	The areas in the vicinity of Cheung Chau Ferry Pier and Praya Street, Cheung Chau
	The areas at the junction of Yat Tung Street and Chung Yan Road, Tung Chung, Lantau Island

District	Location
Yau Tsim Mong	Nathan Road section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
	Sai Yeung Choi Street South section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
	The vicinity of former FEHD Mong Kok Market bounded by Nelson Street, Canton Road, Argyle Street and Tong Mi Road
	Fa Yuen Street section between Nullah Road and Dundas Street
	Sai Yee Street section between Argyle Street and Soy Street
	Portland Street section between Argyle Street and Dundas Street
Sham Shui Po	Tung Chau Street (between Yen Chow Street and Nam Cheong Street)
	Pei Ho Street (between Un Chau Street and Lai Chi Kok Road)
	Kweilin Street (between Apliu Street and Yu Chau Street)
Kowloon City	Bulkeley Street (between Gillies Ave South and Dock Street)
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street, Tai Tung Street and its vicinity
	Ngau Chi Wan Village and its vicinity
	Lung Cheung Road Shatin Pass Road
	Lok Fu MTR Station area near Wang Tau Hom East Road and its vicinity
	Ching Tak Street and its vicinity
	Tai Yau Street and its vicinity in San Po Kong Industrial Area
Kwun Tong	Tsun Yip Street/ How Ming Street / Hip Wo Street / Shui Wo Street / Hoi Yuen Road
	Footbridges of Telford Plaza linking Kowloon Bay MTR / Ngau Tau Kok Road of Amoy Plaza / Wang Hoi Road
	Lam Tin Estate passage way between Tak Tin Street and Ping Tin Street at side of Lam Tin Estate Bus Terminus
	On Wah Street / On Tak Road / Jordan Valley Road North / Ngau Tau Kok Road adjacent to Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate, Kwun Tong
Kwai Tsing	Sheung Ko Tan Street, Chung Mei Village, Tsing Yi

District	Location
Tuen Mun	The vicinity of Sam Shing Estate
	Kai Man Path
	Mei Lok Lane
Yuen Long	Hop Choi Street
North	Sheung Shui MTR Station and its vicinity (including surrounding footbridges, Choi Yuen Road and San Wan Road)
	Fanling MTR Station and its vicinity (including Fanling Station Road and from adjoining footbridge to Pak Wo Road and Yat Ming Road)
Sha Tin	Under flyover between Lung Hang Estate and Sun Chui Estate
	Near Fun City, Lek Yuen Street
	Mei Tin Road

Note : There are no hawker blackspots in Sai Kung, Tai Po and Tsuen Wan districts.

Estimated number of unlicensed hawkers

District	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	148	143	143	141	142
Wan Chai	27	26	16	39	41
Eastern	130	55	48	48	59
Southern	41	49	42	33	30
Islands	15	15	16	18	16
Yau Tsim Mong	302	281	295	301	273
Sham Shui Po	281	411	388	460	523
Kowloon City	63	64	64	61	61
Wong Tai Sin	36	35	49	16	15
Kwun Tong	56	100	79	63	63
Kwai Tsing	69	68	63	63	61
Tsuen Wan	9	7	6	2	3
Tuen Mun	54	51	51	45	44
Yuen Long	40	26	22	28	36
North	79	72	72	62	57
Tai Po	33	35	29	23	22
Shatin	47	42	31	52	46
Sai Kung	10	8	16	10	17
Inside Housing Estates*	40	106	24	9	2
Total	1 480	1 594	1 454	1 474	1 511

*Note : Figures provided by the Housing Department. No further breakdown by district is available.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)355

(Question Serial No. 6926)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide i) the number of outsourced service contracts; ii) the total amount paid to outsourced service contractors; iii) the total number of staff engaged by outsourced service contractors; iv) the number of cleansing workers under outsourced service contracts; and v) the number of security guards under outsourced service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7709)

Reply:

As at 31 December 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department had 159 service contracts. The estimated payments under these contracts were about \$2,881.1 million in 2019-20. Information on the number of staff of cleansing workmen and security guards employed by outsourced service contracts is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)356

(Question Serial No. 6927)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

How many Workmen II are employed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department? What are (i) the number, (ii) the post(s), (iii) the minimum salary point(s), (iv) the maximum salary point(s), and (v) the average weekly working hours and meal time(s) of Workmen II who take up non-technical duties? Are they entitled to travelling and hardship allowances when they work under inclement weather?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7710)

Reply:

As at 1 March 2019, there were 2 778 Workmen II (WMII) working in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department). All of them took up non-technical duties, of whom 2 007 performed public cleansing duties, 387 performed pest control services in public places and 384 performed other duties relating to removal and disposal of dead bodies, cemeteries and crematoria services, manual work in various offices and facilities managed by the Department. The minimum pay point of WMII is Model Scale 1 Pay Scale Point 0 (\$13,040 per month) and the maximum pay point is Model Scale 1 Pay Scale Point 8 (\$15,365 per month). Their average working hours per week is 45 hours. The meal time of WMII is normally 1 hour. If WMII are required to work when a Black Rainstorm Warning Signal or a Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 (or above) is in force, they are entitled to the Rainstorm Black Warning Allowance or Typhoon Allowance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)357

(Question Serial No. 6928)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the outsourced service contracts of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 5 years, please set out the number of service contracts, the total sum of payment to service contractors, the total number of staff employed by contractors, the number of foremen, the number of workers, the distribution of hourly wages and monthly wages of staff employed by contractors in respect of the following outsourced services: (a) street cleansing service; (b) pest control service; (c) market and cooked food market cleansing service; (d) waste collection service; (e) recyclables collection service; and (f) animal carcass collection service.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7711)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

- End -

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's Outsourced Service Contracts

(a) Street Cleansing

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 31.12.2018)
Number of outsourced street cleansing contracts	25	29	30	33	34
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	\$878.0 million	\$926.1 million	\$953.0 million	\$1,093.1 million	\$1,263.0 million ¹
Number of staff employed by outsourced service providers					
· Total	7 197	6 995	6 973	7 715	7 839
· Supervisor	608	593	616	697	726
· Workman	6 589	6 402	6 357	7 018	7 113
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff					
· >\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$13,001-\$16,000	-	-	13	13 ²	-
· \$10,001-\$13,000	92	240	351	496 ²	842 ²
· \$8,001-\$10,000	1 358	6 755	6 609	6 859 ²	6 410 ²
· <\$8,001	5 747	-	-	-	-

Notes:

1. Revised estimate for 2018-19.
2. Only the salary range of non-skilled workers is available starting 2017-18.

(b) Pest Control

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 31.12.2018)
Number of outsourced pest control contracts	20	19	19	19	19
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	\$248.9 million	\$262.6 million	\$268.1 million	\$276.8 million	\$320.6 million ¹
Number of staff employed by outsourced service providers					
· Total	1 676	1 672	1 672	1 756	1 788
· Supervisor	282	285	285	299	303
· Workman	1 394	1 387	1 387	1 457	1 485
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff					
· >\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$13,001-\$16,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$10,001-\$13,000	92	114	169	282 ²	326 ²
· \$8,001-\$10,000	1 060	1 558	1 503	1 391 ²	1 299 ²
· <\$8,001	524	-	-	-	-

Notes:

1. Revised estimate for 2018-19.
2. Only the salary range of non-skilled workers is available starting 2017-18.

(c) Market Cleansing (including market cleansing and market management services)

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 31.12.2018)
Number of outsourced market cleansing contracts	20	20	20	20	21
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	\$174.3 million	\$176.8 million	\$176.2 million	\$176.7 million	\$190.9 million ¹
Number of staff employed by outsourced service providers					
· Total	1 224	1 211	1 200	1 171	1 265
· Supervisor	183	180	180	182	197
· Workman	1 041	1 031	1 020	989	1 068
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff					
· >\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$13,001-\$16,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$10,001-\$13,000	49	62	49	36 ²	-
· \$8,001-\$10,000	103	1 149	1 151	1 054 ²	1 028 ²
· <\$8,001	1 072	-	-	-	-

Notes:

1. Revised estimate for 2018-19.
2. Only the salary range of non-skilled workers is available starting 2017-18.

(d) Waste Collection

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 31.12.2018)
Number of outsourced waste collection contracts	16	16	18	16	16
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	\$146.8 million	\$172.5 million	\$205.8 million	\$210.0 million	\$207.6 million ¹
Number of staff employed by outsourced service providers					
· Total	291	292	328	322	322
· Supervisor	184	185	207	208	210
· Workman	107	107	121	114	112
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff					
· >\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-	10 ²	10 ²
· \$16,001-\$20,000	-	1	1	1 ²	1 ²
· \$13,001-\$16,000	19	32	121	149 ²	130 ²
· \$10,001-\$13,000	106	93	66	40 ²	44 ²
· \$8,001-\$10,000	69	166	140	109 ²	101 ²
· <\$8,001	97	-	-	-	-

Notes:

1. Revised estimate for 2018-19.
2. Only the salary range of non-skilled workers is available starting 2017-18.

(e) Recyclables Collection

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 31.12.2018)
Number of outsourced recyclables collection contracts	2	2	2	2	3
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	\$9.7 million	\$12.7 million	\$12.8 million	\$13.2 million	\$18.0 million ¹
Number of staff employed by outsourced service providers					
· Total	38	38	38	38	38
· Supervisor	17	17	17	17	20
· Workman	21	21	21	21	18
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff					
· >\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	1	1	-
· \$13,001-\$16,000	-	-	-	-	4 ²
· \$10,001-\$13,000	16	16	25	25	14 ²
· \$8,001-\$10,000	17	22	12	12	-
· <\$8,001	5	-	-	-	-

Notes:

1. Revised estimate for 2018-19.
2. Only the salary range of non-skilled workers is available starting 2017-18.

(f) Animal Carcass Collection

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as at 31.12.2018)
Number of outsourced animal carcass collection contracts	1	1	1	1	1
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	\$4.6 million	\$4.9 million	\$4.8 million	\$4.7 million	\$4.8 million ¹
Number of staff employed by outsourced service providers					
· Total	10	10	11	11	12
· Supervisor	5	5	6	6	7
· Workman	5	5	5	5	5
Monthly salary range of outsourced staff					
· >\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$20,001-\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$16,001-\$20,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$13,001-\$16,000	-	-	-	-	-
· \$10,001-\$13,000	5	5	6	6	5 ²
· \$8,001-\$10,000	5	5	5	5	-
· <\$8,001	-	-	-	-	-

Notes:

1. Revised estimate for 2018-19.
2. Only the salary range of non-skilled workers is available starting 2017-18.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)358

(Question Serial No. 6929)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Central Investigation Team (CIT) has been set up by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to follow up complaints against contractors' non-compliance with employment requirements. Please provide the following information with regard to the CIT in the past 3 years: i) the number of inspections conducted; ii) the number of workplaces inspected; iii) the number of complaints received against contractors' non-compliance with the requirements of the employment contracts and those of the Employment Ordinance (with a breakdown by the type of complaint); iv) the number of substantiated complaints; v) the number of cases in which contractors were penalised due to substantiation of their complaints and the penalties imposed.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7712)

Reply:

The Central Investigation Team (CIT) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducted 280, 269 and 267 inspections on contractors' compliance with employment related regulations in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. Instead of physical inspections of the workplaces, the CIT conducts audit and employment-related inspections to check the relevant documents including Standard Employment Contracts, wage records, attendance records, etc. The contractors' staff concerned are interviewed to ascertain compliance with the contract requirements and/or the relevant labour legislation. There is thus no record on the number of workplaces inspected. Details of the complaints received by the CIT are provided as follows -

Year	Types of Complaints					Total no. of complaints	No. of substantiated cases
	Under-payment	No signing of Standard Employment Contract	Exceeding maximum working hours	Failure to grant severance / long service payment	Others^		
2016	5	1	4	2	0	12	3
2017	6	0	1	3	6	16	1
2018	8	0	0	1	7	16	2

^ Including late payment of wages, failure to make contribution to Mandatory Provident Fund, etc.

For substantiated cases, default notices and/or warning letters were issued to the contractors concerned. Deduction from relevant contract payments was also made as appropriate. In particular, contractors will get demerit points for substantiated cases in breach of certain contractual obligations, which might affect their contractors' bidding of similar Government contracts in the future.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)359

(Question Serial No. 6962)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) What is the total number of dog excreta collection bins over the territory?
- (2) Please provide the details of their locations in each district.
- (3) What are the criteria for placing dog excreta collection bins?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1650)

Reply:

- (1) About 1 900 dog excreta collection bins (DECBS) are placed on the streets by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department).
- (2) The Department does not keep a breakdown on the locations of DECBS.
- (3) To keep the streets clean, dog toilets or DECBS are provided by the Department at appropriate locations for the convenience of dog walkers. In general, consideration is given to providing DECBS at locations which are frequently visited by dog walkers or where dog fouling problem exists.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)360

(Question Serial No. 6985)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise on the number of reported cases of injury at work received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) in respect of non-skilled outsourced cleansing workers, parts of body involved and the reason(s) for the injuries, details of the follow-up actions taken by FEHD regarding the reported cases of injury at work in each of the past 5 years. If no follow-up actions have been taken, please state the reason(s). If figures relating to the reported cases are not available, please state the reason(s). Has the Department considered increasing manpower to monitor the occupational safety and health of outsourced workers, and how will it ensure the occupational safety and health of outsourced workers?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7713)

Reply:

The contracts signed between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and its service contractors stipulate that in the event of any of the contractors' employees suffering from any injury or death in the course of or arising out of the contract (whether or not a claim for compensation is involved), the contractor shall, within 7 clear working days, give notice in writing of such injury or death to FEHD. The contractors are also required to comply with all the legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts, including the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509) (the Ordinance). The number of reported cases received by FEHD on injury at work of cleansing workers employed under cleansing service contracts in the past 5 years is given as follows -

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to 28.2.2019)
No. of reported cases on injury at work	89	94	65	68	62

The injuries sustained by cleansing workers at work in the reported cases were mainly sprains, strains, bruises, cuts and wounds in different parts of the body. Unintended collisions (for instance, with a bicycle or a hand cart), slips, trips or falls on same level and lifting were common causes of injuries. If FEHD suspects a breach of the Ordinance in a reported case, the case will be referred to the Labour Department (LD) for investigation. If it is confirmed that the contractor has committed an offence under the Ordinance, LD will take appropriate actions including instituting prosecution against the contractor. FEHD will also take action in accordance with the contract terms, including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as withholding/deducting monthly payment of service charge.

The contractors have a duty to ensure, as far as practicable, their employees' safety and health at work under the Occupational Safety and Health Regulation (Cap. 509A) (the Regulation). In FEHD's services contracts involving non-skilled workers, it is stipulated that the contractor shall provide necessary training on occupational safety, sufficient protective equipment, ancillary tools as well as complying with all the legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts, including the Regulation. FEHD staff carry out regular and surprise inspections to check the contractors' performance and ensure their compliance with the contractual requirements. Any breach of contractual obligations by the contractors will lead to the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as deduction of monthly payment of service charge.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)361

(Question Serial No. 6986)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

What are the meal break arrangements for workers employed by the outsourced service contractors of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department? Are these workers entitled to meal breaks and paid meal breaks? Does the Department provide meal-taking facilities for the non-skilled outsourced workers? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7714)

Reply:

According to the contract terms of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) service contracts, there is a meal break of 1 hour for the non-skilled workers employed by contractors for any work shift of 8 hours or longer. Given that the services are properly provided, the Department allows the non-skilled workers working in work shifts of less than 8 hours to take refreshments at their work sites at appropriate time during their working hours. Whether non-skilled workers are paid for meal breaks or not depend on the mutual agreement between the contractors and non-skilled workers.

For the provision of public cleansing services, the contractors' non-skilled workers can use attendant rooms, roll call points or other appropriate places for having meals when circumstances permit.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)362

(Question Serial No. 6987)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the number of refuse collection points (RCPs) managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department as at 31 March 2019; the locations of RCPs which are provided with (i) changing facilities, (ii) common rooms, (iii) drinking facilities, (iv) mobile refuse compactors and (v) automatic refuse bin washing machines; and the area of common rooms (if any).

Does the Department have plans to provide other RCPs with changing facilities, common rooms, drinking facilities, mobile refuse compactors and automatic refuse bin washing machines?

Will any space in the newly built RCPs be reserved for providing changing facilities, common rooms, drinking facilities, mobile refuse compactors and automatic refuse bin washing machines? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7715)

Reply:

Currently, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) manages 159 permanent off-street refuse collection points (RCPs) and 54 are provided with mobile refuse compactors. Each RCP is staffed by an attendant in each work shift and is provided with drinking water facilities. Generally speaking, permanent off-street RCPs with roll call points are provided with changing rooms. Nonetheless, there are exceptions owing to space constraints. Such being the case, the Department allows its contractors to provide temporary changing and storage facilities in RCPs for the convenience of their employees where circumstances permit.

For newly built RCPs, changing and storage facilities are provided for both in-house staff and contractors' staff if circumstances permit. The Department has also kick-started a pilot scheme to carry out improvement works in existing roll call points, including RCPs,

for provision of changing and storage facilities. It will also provide changing and storage facilities if circumstances permit when the RCPs are refurbished. The Department will consider the provision of mobile refuse compactors in individual RCPs, including those under planning, on the basis of operational needs and where the site situation permits. The Department has no plan to install automatic litter container washing systems in RCPs. There is no separate breakdown on expenditure on the provision of the above facilities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)363

(Question Serial No. 6990)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the number of public toilets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department as at 31 March 2019; the locations of public toilets which are provided with (i) attendant rooms, (ii) drinking facilities and (iii) roll call rooms nearby; the area of attendant rooms (if any); and whether ventilation facilities are provided.

Will enhancement be made to the facilities of public toilets, including providing resting and drinking facilities for staff? Will any space in the newly built public toilets be reserved for providing resting and drinking facilities for staff? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7800)

Reply:

Amongst the 799 public toilets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), 264 are provided with toilet attendants. Of these toilets, 231 are provided with attendant rooms and their sizes vary according to actual circumstances. General speaking, toilet attendants may sign in and out at the public toilets.

About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. Due consideration will be given to the provision or enhancement of attendant rooms as far as possible when new toilets are built or existing ones refurbished. A rest area as well as changing facilities will be provided as far as practicable.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)364

(Question Serial No. 6991)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the respective numbers of cases in which the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department imposed punishments on its cleansing service contractors in each of the past 5 years for breaching (a) the contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system and (b) other contractual obligations, as well as the following details of such cases: (i) names of contractors; (ii) number of breaches; (iii) details of the breaches; (iv) the respective numbers of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices issued; and (v) total amount of the monthly service charges deducted.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7801)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

(a) Contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of substantiated cases of non-compliance with contractual obligations relating to the demerit point system	1	0	1	0	1
Details of the breaches	Exceeding maximum working hours	--	Exceeding maximum working hours	--	Underpayment of wages
No. of written warnings issued	1	0	1	0	0
No. of default notices issued*	0	0	0	0	1
No. of demerit points recorded	0	0	0	0	1
Amount of service charge payments deducted (\$)	0	0	0	0	8 045

* No verbal or written warning was issued in the past 5 years.

(b) Other contractual obligations

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of verbal warnings issued	2 181	2 165	2 792	2 160	2 742
No. of written warnings issued	259	156	108	122	537
No. of default notices issued	1 321	1 403	937	1 089	1 621
Amount of service charge payments deducted (\$ million)	2.661	3.022	1.727	2.086	3.915

Other information sought is not readily available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)365

(Question Serial No. 6992)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (-) Not specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the respective number of complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in each of the past 5 years about its non-skilled outsourced service contractors (i) underpaying wages; (ii) defaulting on wage payments; (iii) failing to sign the Standard Employment Contract; (iv) exceeding working hour limits; and (v) breaching the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) and the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282), the number of complaints found substantiated, the number of contractors penalised as a result (with a breakdown by form of punishment) and the number of contractors debarred from tendering due to conviction.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7802)

Reply:

In the past 5 years, the number of employment-related complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against outsourced service contractors is as follows -

Year	Types of Complaints					Total no. of substantiated cases	No. of Default Notices issued	No. of Warning Letters issued
	Under-payment	Non-payment of wages	No signing of Standard Employment Contract	Exceeding maximum working hours	Non-compliance with Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) and/or Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282) ^			
2014	13	0	2	2	2	2	1	1
2015	14	0	0	1	7	1	0	1
2016	5	0	1	4	2	3	0	3
2017	6	0	0	1	9	1	1	0
2018	8	0	0	0	8	2*	4	0

^ Including late payment of wages, failure to grant severance/long service payment, etc.

* One of the cases involves 3 service contracts and each was issued with a default notice.

In the past 5 years, no outsourced service contractor was debarred from tendering for service contracts that rely heavily on the deployment of non-skilled workers.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)366

(Question Serial No. 7013)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the detailed estimates for “enhancing the protection of non-skilled workers employed by services contractors”. Are there any plans to further enhance the protection of these workers?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7920)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adopt the new enhancement measures for service tenders to be issued on or after 1 April 2019 to protect outsourced non-skilled workers employed by the Department's service contractors. The additional expenditure incurred will be reflected in the tender price.

To benefit non-skilled workers engaged in the service contracts during the transitional period between the announcement of the new policy in October 2018 and the effective date of 1 April 2019, the Department has negotiated with the service contractors concerned to incorporate relevant new enhancement measures into the service contracts by making top-up payments on a reimbursement basis for the additional costs incurred.

The total additional expenditure incurred throughout the whole contract period in implementing the enhancement measures is estimated to be about \$68 million.

The Department will follow the guidelines of the Government for any further improvement in this respect.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)367

(Question Serial No. 7123)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In the past 5 years, what were the total expenditure incurred for outsourcing the cleansing services for the markets managed by the Department, the total amount of fines imposed on the Department's market cleansing service contractors for breaching contract conditions (with a breakdown by company), and the number of warnings issued to such contractors for breaching contract conditions (with a breakdown by company)?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 3570)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex I and Annex II.

- End -

Expenditure incurred for outsourcing services for markets including cleansing services

Financial Year	\$ million
2014-15	170.5
2015-16	169.9
2016-17	172.4
2017-18	173.7
2018-19	182.0

**Deduction of payment and number of warnings issued to
Contractors related to market cleansing services
for breaching contract conditions**

Calendar Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Deduction of Payment (\$ million)	0.513	1.395	1.898	0.329	0.479
Number of Written Warnings issued	11	17	240	121	39

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)368****(Question Serial No. 7133)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In the past 5 years, what were the total number of cleansing workers employed by the Department's public cleansing service contractors (with a breakdown by company), the total expenditure incurred by the Department for outsourcing public cleansing services, the amount of fines imposed on such contractors for breaching contract conditions (with a breakdown by company), and the number of warnings issued to such contractors for breaching contract conditions (with a breakdown by company)?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7105)

Reply:

The expenditure incurred by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) for outsourced public cleansing services in 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 (revised estimate) is \$1,085.4 million, \$1,163.8 million, \$1,223.7 million, \$1,386.0 million and \$1,617.2 million respectively.

The total number of cleansing workmen employed by the Department's public cleansing service contractors, the number of contract enforcement against breaching contract provisions and the amount of service charge payments deducted in the past 5 years are provided as follows –

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of cleansing workers employed by the Department's public cleansing service contractors	6 838	6 777	6 591	6 939	7 368
No. of verbal warnings issued	2 181	2 165	2 792	2 160	2 742

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. of written warnings issued	260	156	109	122	537
No. of default notices issued	1 321	1 403	937	1 089	1 622
Amount of service charge payments deducted (\$ million)	2.661	3.022	1.727	2.086	3.923

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)369

(Question Serial No. 7141)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the number of convicted cases in the past 5 years in relation to the prosecutions instituted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against environmental hygiene related offences, with a breakdown by type of hawkers (licensed hawkers, unlicensed hawkers, market stalls, ...);
- (2) the number of inspections conducted by the Department in relation to hawkers, pitches and market stalls, the number of prosecutions instituted, the number of convicted cases, as well as the manpower and administrative charges involved, in each of the past 5 years (please set out the information in tabular form); and
- (3) the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in each of the past 5 years, with a breakdown by district.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7702)

Reply:

- (1) Information on the number of convictions on licensed and unlicensed hawkers, and market stalls in public markets for the past 5 years (from 2014 to 2018) is provided at Annex I.
- (2) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) does not keep separate statistics on the number of inspections to licensed hawker stalls and public market stalls. Information on the number of prosecutions and convictions against licensed hawkers or public market tenants, as well as the manpower and expenditure incurred in hawker control and management of public markets in the past 5 years (from 2014 to 2018) is provided at Annex II.

Taking enforcement actions is part of the duties of the Department's hawker control and market management staff. Further breakdown on the manpower and expenditure on prosecution is not available.

- (3) The information on the estimated number of unlicensed hawkers in 18 districts over the past 5 years (from 2014 to 2018) is provided at Annex III.

- End -

**Number of convictions on licensed
and unlicensed hawkers, and market stalls in public markets
(2014 – 2018)**

Calendar year	No. of Convictions		
	Licensed hawkers	Unlicensed hawkers	Market stalls
2014	5 805	28 206	1 214
2015	5 622	23 473	1 523
2016	3 431	14 372	1 911
2017	3 201	6 270	1 916
2018	2 838	4 859	1 637

**Enforcement actions
against licensed hawkers and public market tenants**

Calendar year	Licensed hawkers		Public market tenants	
	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions
2014	5 183	5 805	1 291	1 214
2015	4 493	5 622	1 658	1 523
2016	3 787	3 431	2 065	1 911
2017	3 765	3 201	1 893	1 916
2018	3 733	2 838	1 697	1 637

Note : Prosecutions instituted in a year may be convicted in the following year.

**Manpower and expenditure incurred in
hawker control and management of public markets**

Financial Year	Licensed Hawkers		Public Markets	
	Number of staff	Expenditure (\$ million)	Number of staff	Expenditure (\$ million)
2014-15	2 209	951.8	384	741.0
2015-16	2 210	1,025.2	376	720.4
2016-17	2 243	1,108.8	390	840.0
2017-18	2 264	1,074.2	386	807.1
2018-19	2 264	1,148.0 (revised estimate)	416	853.1 (revised estimate)

Estimated number of unlicensed hawkers

District	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	148	143	143	141	142
Wan Chai	27	26	16	39	41
Eastern	130	55	48	48	59
Southern	41	49	42	33	30
Islands	15	15	16	18	16
Yau Tsim Mong	302	281	295	301	273
Sham Shui Po	281	411	388	460	523
Kowloon City	63	64	64	61	61
Wong Tai Sin	36	35	49	16	15
Kwun Tong	56	100	79	63	63
Kwai Tsing	69	68	63	63	61
Tsuen Wan	9	7	6	2	3
Tuen Mun	54	51	51	45	44
Yuen Long	40	26	22	28	36
North	79	72	72	62	57
Tai Po	33	35	29	23	22
Shatin	47	42	31	52	46
Sai Kung	10	8	16	10	17
Inside Housing Estates*	40	106	24	9	2
Total	1 480	1 594	1 454	1 474	1 511

Remark: * Figures provided by Housing Department. No further breakdown by district is available.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)370

(Question Serial No. 4196)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the equipment of the Cleansing Sections of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please advise this Committee on:

- 1) the current total number of the equipment listed below, the respective vehicle registration marks and the district(s) served:
 - a) street washing vehicle;
 - b) grab lorry;
 - c) compaction type refuse collection vehicle (RCV); and
 - d) demountable RCV; and

- 2) the total number of the equipment listed below which the service contractors are required to provide under the existing contracts signed between the Department and the service contractors, and the average daily number of routes served by each type of vehicle. (Please present the information in the table below.)

a) Street washing vehicle

Name of contractor	District(s) served	Number of vehicles provided	Average daily number of routes served

b) Grab lorry

Name of contractor	District(s) served	Number of vehicles provided	Average daily number of routes served

c) **Compaction type RCV**

Name of contractor	District(s) served	Number of vehicles provided	Average daily number of routes served

d) **Demountable RCV**

Name of contractor	District(s) served	Number of vehicles provided	Average daily number of routes served

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1098)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows—

- 1) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has 35 street washing vehicles (SWVs) and 143 compaction-type refuse collection vehicles (RCVs). Their serving districts, quantities and registration marks are provided at Annex I. The Department does not have any in-house grab lorry or demountable RCV.
- 2) The information sought is set out at Annexes II to V.

- End -

SWVs and Compaction-type RCVs of the Department

District	SWVs		Compaction-type RCVs	
	Quantity	Registration marks	Quantity	Registration marks
Hong Kong	8	AM3106, AM4734, AM5126, AM5128, AM5130, AM5165, AM5178, AM5181	53	AM9006, AM9018, AM9062, AM9066, AM9067, AM9073, AM9075, AM9079, AM9081, AM9082, AM9083, AM9084, AM9085, AM9087, AM9088, AM9091, AM9092, AM9094, AM9101, AM9102, AM9110, AM9117, AM9133, AM9139, AM9386, AM9387, AM9388, AM9389, AM9422, AM9426, AM9451, AM9458, AM9462, AM9469, AM9472, AM9474, AM9477, AM9478, AM9531, AM9532, AM9533, AM9534, AM9535, AM9687, AM9688, AM9690, AM9693, AM9694, AM9695, AM9696, AM9697, AM9698, AM9738
Kowloon	14	AM4135, AM4138, AM4139, AM4142, AM4464, AM4465, AM4467, AM5124, AM5129, AM5131, AM5241, AM5246, AM5247, AM5250	34	AM9049, AM9051, AM9052, AM9055, AM9058, AM9061, AM9063, AM9089, AM9111, AM9115, AM9116, AM9118, AM9119, AM9120, AM9126, AM9129, AM9130, AM9134, AM9136, AM9137, AM9143, AM9150, AM9151, AM9152, AM9395, AM9454, AM9457, AM9483, AM9484, AM9485, AM9487, AM9488, AM9489, AM9490
New Territories	13	AM4137, AM4140, AM4141, AM4471, AM4476,	56	AM9046, AM9100, AM9112, AM9113, AM9121, AM9122, AM9124, AM9125, AM9127, AM9128, AM9138, AM9141, AM9145, AM9210, AM9392,

District	SWVs		Compaction-type RCVs	
	Quantity	Registration marks	Quantity	Registration marks
		AM5231, AM5232, AM5233, AM5239, AM5240, AM5242, AM5244, AM5249		AM9393, AM9396, AM9400, AM9401, AM9402, AM9404, AM9405, AM9406, AM9420, AM9425, AM9427, AM9428, AM9430, AM9431, AM9433, AM9435, AM9436, AM9437, AM9438, AM9439, AM9440, AM9441, AM9442, AM9446, AM9447, AM9449, AM9450, AM9452, AM9461, AM9464, AM9467, AM9468, AM9471, AM9473, AM9476, AM9486, AM9491, AM9492, AM9493, AM9736, AM9737

SWVs Provided by Service Contractors

Name of contractor	Districts	Number of SWVs provided	Average daily number of routes
Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	Central and Western, Eastern & Wong Tai Sin	19	27
Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	Wan Chai, Islands, Yau Tsim, Mong Kok, Tsuen Wan, Sha Tin & Sai Kung	22	29
Lapco Service Limited	Wan Chai, Southern, Kowloon City Kwun Tong & North	19	26
Law's Cleaning Services Limited	Yau Tsim, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Yuen Long, Tai Po & Sai Kung	20	27
Man Shing Cleaning Service Company Limited	Mong Kok, Tuen Mun & North	6	8

Grab Lorries Provided by Service Contractors

Name of contractor	Districts	Number of grab lorries provided	Average daily number of routes
Baguio Cleaning Services Company Limited	Wong Tai Sin	1	2
Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Ltd.	Islands, Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing & Tuen Mun	7	7
China Type Limited	Tai Po	2	2
Johnson Cleaning Services Company Limited	Wan Chai, Yau Tsim, Mong Kok, Tsuen Wan, Sha Tin & Sai Kung	7	7
Kan Kee Cleaning Services Co. Ltd.	Kowloon City, Sha Tin	4	4
Lapco Service Limited	Southern, Kowloon City & North Wanchai	7	7
Law's Cleaning Services Limited	Yau Tsim, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Tsing, Yuen Long, Tai Po & Sai Kung Wong Tai Sin	16	16
Lik Shun Services Limited	Eastern	1	1
Man Shing Cleaning Service Company Limited	Mong Kok & North	5	5

Name of contractor	Districts	Number of grab lorries provided	Average daily number of routes
Shiny Glory Services Limited	Kwun Tong, Yuen Long & Sai Kung	6	6

Compaction-type RCVs Provided by Service Contractors

Name of contractor	Districts	Number of compaction-type RCVs provided	Average daily number of routes
Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Ltd.	Islands, Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing & Tuen Mun	26	31
China Type Limited	Tai Po	6	6
Kan Kee Cleaning Services Co. Ltd.	Kowloon City & Sha Tin	10	12
Lapco Service Limited	Wan Chai & Mong Kok	8	11
Law's Cleaning Services Limited	Wong Tai Sin	8	9
Lik Shun Services Limited	Eastern	4	4
Man Shing Cleaning Service Company Limited	Tsuen Wan	6	7
Shiny Glory Services Limited	Sham Shui Po, Kwun Tong, Yuen Long, North & Sai Kung	28	34
Waihong Environmental Services Limited	Central and Western	3	5

**Hook-lifting Vehicles Provided by Service Contractors
(for Waste Collection Services)**

Name of contractor	Districts	Number of vehicles provided	Average daily number of routes
Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Ltd.	Kwun Tong & Tuen Mun	3	3
China Type Limited	Tai Po	1	1
Kan Kee Cleaning Services Co. Ltd.	Kowloon City & Sha Tin	2	3
Lapco Service Limited	Wan Chai & Mong Kok	4	7
Law's Cleaning Services Limited	Wong Tai Sin	1	1
Lik Shun Services Limited	Eastern	1	1
Man Shing Cleaning Service Company Limited	Tsuen Wan	1	2
Shiny Glory Services Limited	Southern, Islands, Yau Tsim, Kwun Tong, Kwai Tsing, Yuen Long & Sai Kung	12	12
Waihong Environmental Services Limited	Central and Western	2	2

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)371

(Question Serial No. 4197)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the equipment of the Cleansing Sections under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, is there any increase in the estimated recurrent expenditure for additional grab lorry services in comparison with the previous financial year? If yes, what is the amount of provision and the number of additional grab lorries?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.:1099)

Reply:

The estimated recurrent expenditure incurred by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) for hiring grab lorries services is about \$6.9 million in 2019-20, which is about 19% higher than that of \$5.8 million in 2018-19. The average number of grab lorries to be hired daily increases from 16 in 2018-19 to 19 in 2019-20.

Grab lorries are also provided by the Department's street cleansing and waste collection services contractors. They provided 56 grab lorries in 2018-19 and will provide 18 more in 2019-20. The Department does not keep a breakdown of the estimated expenditure for grab lorry services provided by these contractors.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)372

(Question Serial No. 4966)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the protection of employees at work, please provide information on injuries at work sustained by workers of the Cleansing Sections of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 5 years, including:

- (1) the number of cases of injury at work involving in-house cleansing workers, and among them, the number of cases in which the workers sustained injuries whilst carrying;
- (2) the number of cases of injury at work involving outsourced cleansing workers, and among them, the number of cases in which the workers sustained injuries whilst carrying.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1100)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

Financial year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to 28.2.2019)
Involving cleansing workers employed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department)					
No. of reported cases on injury at work	138	133	127	148	158
No. of reported cases on injury whilst carrying	51	36	37	41	39
Involving cleansing workers employed by the Department's service contractors					
No. of reported cases on injury at work	89	87	63	65	53
No. of reported cases on injury whilst carrying	Not available				

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)373

(Question Serial No. 4967)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the effectiveness of the outsourced cleansing services of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please give information on the inspections of the work of outsourced contractors of the Cleansing Sections conducted by the Department in the past 3 years, including:

- 1) the number of penalty tickets issued to outsourced cleansing service contractors in each year;
- 2) the total amount of fines imposed on outsourced cleansing service contractors in each year;
- 3) the number of times demerit points were deducted in respect of cleansing services in each year;
- 4) the number of substantiated cases of employment-related misconduct of outsourced contractors in each year, and among them, the number of cases referred to the law enforcement agencies.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2001)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

	2016	2017	2018
No. of verbal warnings issued	2 792	2 160	2 742
No. of written warnings issued	109	122	537
No. of default notices issued	937	1 089	1 622
Amount of service charge payments deducted (\$ million)	1.727	2.086	3.923
No. of demerit points recorded	0	0	1
No. of substantiated cases of non-compliance with employment-related contractual obligations	1	0	1
No. of referrals to law enforcement agencies	0	0	0

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)374

(Question Serial No. 4982)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the manpower allocation as well as costs and expenditure of the Cleansing Sections under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please inform this Committee on:

- 1) the total number of special services provided by the Department for the recovery work after typhoon Mangkhut, the locations and the expenditure for providing special services; and
- 2) the estimated special recovery work to cope with the aftermath of possible typhoon signal no. 8 or no. 10 in the coming year and the expenditure to be incurred.

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2014)

Reply:

- 1) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) deployed resources for removal of fallen trees and typhoon debris caused by the typhoon Mangkhut. Generally speaking, FEHD removed the branches and twigs cut by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on public roads in the urban area. Apart from the urban area under its purview, FEHD also strived to deploy manpower to assist other departments when needed in removing the branches and twigs cut in the New Territories. FEHD cleared a total of about 10 000 tonnes of typhoon debris to landfills or transfer stations and delivered about 300 lorry-loads of tree waste to the temporary wood waste collection area in the Kai Tak Development Area, before the situation resumed normal. FEHD does not keep separate breakdown of expenditure on the post-typhoon clearance.
- 2) The Security Bureau is coordinating a review on the handling of aftermath of super typhoons, which covers contingency response plans, post-typhoon recovery and restoration as well as external and internal information dissemination. FEHD and other relevant departments have participated in the review. It is an integral part of

FEHD's work to cope with possible typhoon signal no. 8 or 10 and the estimated expenditure to be incurred by FEHD in the coming year is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)375

(Question Serial No. 4996)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The waste charging scheme is to be implemented by the Government. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

1. Will there be an increase in the number of in-house cleansing workers and outsourced cleansing workers of the Department? If yes, what is the estimated increase (please also provide the percentage of increase)?
2. In the light of the waste charging scheme, what is the additional manpower to be deployed by the Department to carry out enforcement work?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2028)

Reply:

Municipal solid waste (MSW) charging, which is under the policy purview of the Environment Bureau, aims to create financial incentives to drive behavioural changes in waste generation and hence reduce overall waste disposal. Experiences in other cities which have implemented MSW charging show that it will take time to cultivate the necessary behavioural changes and the compliance situation will gradually improve with time, and fly-tipping problem is likely to aggravate with the implementation of MSW charging in the initial period.

Since 2017, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has enhanced the manpower deployment on street cleansing for maintaining and improving environmental hygiene, as well as set up about 20 dedicated enforcement teams (DETs) (each comprising 5 frontline enforcement officers) to tackle illegal dumping at black spots all over the territory. FEHD will set up additional DETs in 2019-20 to step up the enforcement work against illegal deposit of waste.

The enforcement actions in this regard will help improve our environmental hygiene while at the same time facilitate the necessary behavioural changes among the public in complying with the charging requirement. Moreover, both FEHD and the Environmental Protection Department are planning to expand the use of the internet-protocol (IP) cameras to deter fly-tipping at blackspots in public places. IP cameras have been installed at around 150 locations by end 2018. More IP cameras will be installed at 25 additional locations with a view to covering at least 170 locations in 2019.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)376

(Question Serial No. 5001)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. With regard to refuse collection and street cleansing services in each District Council district, please advise on the number of outsourced workers, the number of non-outsourced workers, the monthly total working hours of the cleansing workers, and the expenditure involved in the past 3 years.
2. Please advise on the estimated percentage of management costs in the contract expenditure for the outsourced cleansing service contracts of the Department in the past 3 years.
3. Has the Department considered, or will it consider, allocating additional manpower resources for refuse collection and street cleansing in districts with old buildings (some old buildings have not employed workers to deliver the refuse to the refuse collection point)? If yes, please provide the details; if no, please give the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 2032)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

1. The expenditure of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in providing public cleansing services (including the expenditure on street cleansing and refuse collection services) in 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 is \$2,498.1 million, \$2,650.5 million and \$3,036.5 million respectively. In general, the work shift of cleansing workmen is not more than 10 hours a day. There is no breakdown on the monthly total working hours of the cleansing workmen. The number of in-house and contractor cleansing workmen in 2016, 2017 and 2018 is provided in the following table –

District	2016		2017		2018	
	In-house cleansing workmen	Contractor cleansing workmen	In-house cleansing workmen	Contractor cleansing workmen	In-house cleansing workmen	Contractor cleansing workmen*
Central and Western	85	517	77	564	82	635
Wan Chai	122	284	112	285	81	506
Eastern	87	386	82	352	85	352
Southern	82	165	88	209	86	209
Islands	154	238	154	276	151	271
Yau Tsim Mong	177	712	172	710	168	699
Sham Shui Po	96	446	89	459	94	459
Kowloon City	81	386	81	433	76	433
Wong Tai Sin	48	173	48	173	46	195
Kwun Tong	54	320	56	374	55	374
Kwai Tsing	93	318	96	318	94	287
Tsuen Wan	80	312	81	340	86	340
Tuen Mun	132	266	128	268	129	268
Yuen Long	190	481	187	483	193	556
North	202	454	207	486	204	486
Tai Po	106	299	105	299	143	286
Sha Tin	145	343	145	407	145	406
Sai Kung	136	356	135	368	138	344
Cross district	5	135	5	135	5	262

Remarks: * Staff for ad hoc events or duties are excluded.

- The Department does not keep a breakdown on the management costs in the contract expenditure for the outsourced cleansing service contracts.

3. The Department is responsible for provision of collection services of household waste. Refuse collection vehicles of the Department and its contractors call at refuse collection points (RCPs) or stops on scheduled routes. RCPs receive household waste from nearby residential developments delivered by the public or their private waste collectors. The Department has no plan to extend the services to collect refuse directly from households.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)377

(Question Serial No. 5394)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the work of continuing to plan new public market facilities at suitable locations, will the Government answer the following questions:

1. In October 2018, the Government proposed building a public market in Tung Chung. Is it a traditional market like Yeung Uk Road Market and Pei Ho Street Market? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
2. Local residents in Tung Chung have long been requesting a cooked food centre in the district to meet their daily needs. Will the Department consider building a cooked food centre at Area 1 in Tung Chung (the station adjacent to Tat Tung Road Garden)? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
3. How does the operation mode of a modern market differ from that of a traditional market (e.g. Yeung Uk Road Market and Pei Ho Street Market)?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 519)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build a new public market at the lower floors of a commercial building in Tung Chung Area 6, which is adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. In building a new-generation public market, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will introduce new design features to facilitate modern management and meet the expectations of patrons in today's retail environment. Preliminary design features include –

- (a) the stalls should be of reasonable size such that stall operators can conduct all the business operation, including storage, preparation, sale, and cleaning (floor drainage inside), within the stall boundary to prevent obstruction;
- (b) the stall passageways for patrons should be wide enough to allow pleasant strolling and shopping as well as easy access by strollers and wheelchairs;
- (c) universal accessibility provisions must be provided up to contemporary standards;

- (d) more space should be reserved for passageways, communal areas, creating a cleaner and enticing environment for a better shopping experience; and
- (e) the market should be provided at the lower floors with stalls spreading over at most two floors with easy access to pedestrian traffic.

Further details of the new market project would be available when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

Public markets are positioned as one of the major sources of shopping fresh food provisions for the public. They should be kept reasonably decent, clean, neat and tidy without being unduly upmarket. These guiding principles will be observed in the development of new markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)378

(Question Serial No. 4558)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this Programme, the work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department involves public cleansing and street cleansing services. As reflected by quite a few residents, some members of local communities have been feeding wild birds such as pigeons by placing food everywhere, which affects environmental hygiene and the health of wild birds. Please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of complaints received, warnings issued and prosecutions instituted against pigeon feeding by placing food everywhere in each of the 18 districts over the past 5 years; and
2. whether the Department will improve the procedures for handling complaints against bird feeding, deploy additional manpower, lower the prosecution threshold and step up inspection of the blackspots. What are the staff establishment and remuneration expenditure concerned?

Asked by: Hon FAN Kwok-wai, Gary (LegCo internal reference no.: 103)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows—

1. In accordance with the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation (Cap. 132 BK), any person depositing litter on street or public place, including dirtying public places while feeding wild birds, will be prosecuted. The offender is liable to a fine of up to \$25,000 and imprisonment for 6 months. The same offences may also be caught under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570), which empowers an enforcement officer to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) currently at \$1,500. The number of complaints received and FPNs issued by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) against these nuisances in the past 4 years is provided at Annex.

2. The Department has put in place a series of enhanced measures to prevent environmental hygiene nuisances caused by the congregation of wild birds. These include stepping up inspection, cleansing and disinfection with diluted bleach solution at public places where wild birds congregate; reminding the public not to feed wild birds through distribution of leaflets and erection of warning signs at target locations; and taking stringent enforcement actions against people dirtying public places while feeding wild birds. The Department has also installed internet protocol cameras and set up dedicated enforcement teams, primarily to step up enforcement actions against various public cleanliness offences, including dirtying public places while feeding wild birds, since mid-2017.

The Department does not have a separate breakdown for the manpower and expenditure for cleansing and enforcement work against dirtying public places while feeding wild birds.

- End -

**Number of complaints received and FPNs issued by the Department against people
dirtying public places while feeding wild birds**

District	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19 (as at 28.2.2019)	
	No. of Complaints	No. of FPNs issued	No. of Complaints	No. of FPNs issued	No. of Complaints	No. of FPNs issued	No. of Complaints	No. of FPNs issued
Central and Western	51	17	41	19	45	26	66	52
Wan Chai	35	9	37	10	61	15	49	41
Eastern	47	8	51	10	53	28	48	36
Southern	17	3	28	6	19	8	11	17
Islands	0	10	2	8	5	7	10	5
Yau Tsim Mong	28	9	30	14	53	8	54	37
Sham Shui Po	29	15	51	33	47	32	50	27
Kowloon City	28	3	12	3	28	7	47	12
Wong Tai Sin	4	3	9	1	11	0	7	17
Kwun Tong	16	0	22	1	20	0	15	5
Kwai Tsing	4	2	6	0	14	0	8	2
Tsuen Wan	3	0	2	0	5	1	4	1
Tuen Mun	4	3	5	1	6	9	7	8
Yuen Long	20	5	21	4	42	11	33	18
North	0	0	0	1	5	2	2	0
Tai Po	14	0	12	1	11	1	19	3
Sha Tin	8	1	20	8	23	21	9	34
Sai Kung	16	3	23	4	30	5	35	8
Total	324	91	372	124	478	181	474	323

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)379****(Question Serial No. 3557)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

With regard to the wholesale of live pigs, please advise on:

- (a) the total number, the average daily number, as well as the highest and the lowest daily wholesale numbers of live pigs supplied to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19);
- (b) the monthly average, the highest and the lowest prices of live pigs supplied to Hong Kong in each of the past 3 years (i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19); and
- (c) the total expenditure and average expenditure per head of pig by the Government in handling live pigs (such as the arrangements for slaughterhouses and quarantine management), as well as the manpower involved.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 76)Reply:

- (a) Information on the number of live pigs imported in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows –

Calendar Year	Total number of live pigs imported	Daily number of live pigs imported		
		Average	Highest	Lowest
2016	1 439 568	3 933	6 642	1 934
2017	1 455 379	3 987	5 747	1 930
2018	1 468 150	4 022	7 049	1 188

(b) All imported live pigs are sold through auctions. Information on the auction prices of live pigs imported in the past 3 years is tabulated as follows -

Calendar Year	Auction prices per picul of imported live pigs (HK\$)		
	Average	Highest	Lowest
2016	1,567	1,777	1,463
2017	1,302	1,534	1,166
2018	1,211	1,571	1,053

(c) The revised estimate of the expenditure on live food animal inspection in slaughterhouses in 2018-19 is \$42.9 million, involving 91 staff posts from the Centre for Food Safety. The average expenditure during the year on each live food animal slaughtered is about \$26.9. Such live food animals include pigs, cattle and goats. The cost for handling live pigs cannot be separately quantified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)380

(Question Serial No. 3592)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the problem of hygiene blackspots, please advise on:

- (a) the locations of all existing hygiene blackspots in the territory and the hygiene problems involved, with a breakdown by district;
- (b) the criteria adopted by the Department in assessing hygiene blackspots and the follow-up actions taken after the assessment; and
- (c) whether the Department has worked with District Councils or community groups to invite members of local communities to identify hygiene blackspots and participate in monitoring efforts.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 67)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) receives environmental hygiene complaints from members of the public through multiple channels, including reports pinpointing locations with unsatisfactory hygiene conditions. The Department will conduct investigation and take measures to abate the nuisance. Depending on the circumstances prevailing at individual locations, the Department will adjust the frequency of street cleansing and pest control operations and step up enforcement action as appropriate. There is no hard and fast definition of what a hygienic "black spot" is; the term is used to refer to an area where the cleanliness problem remains obstinate despite enhanced cleansing.

A list of the top 5 locations in each of the 19 districts, as at March 2019, to which the Department devotes more efforts and resources in tackling the problem of illegal dumping of refuse is set out at Annex.

Since June 2018, the Department has installed Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at 115 illegal refuse deposit black spots over the territory to curb such activities. The Department plans to extend the scheme for 2 years and will consult District Councils (DCs) to draw up a prioritised site list for each district for installation of IP cameras. It will progressively increase the number of locations for installation of IP cameras to over 300 with consideration given to the locations proposed by DCs, at an estimated annual expenditure of \$26 million.

To combat illegal deposit of refuse, apart from installation of IP cameras, the Department has set up 19 dedicated enforcement teams (DETs), primarily to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences. The Department will set up additional DETs in 2019-20 to strengthen law enforcement work and convey health messages, distribute leaflets and warning notices to arouse public awareness of maintaining street cleanliness and proper disposal of refuse. In addition, the Department has, with the consent of respective DCs, extended the opening hours of some refuse collection points to meet the demand for service at midnight or in the early morning. This arrangement has brought about improvements to environmental hygiene.

There are various channels which the public may raise suggestions or complaints on the services of the Department. The Department will follow up the cases and conduct inspections of cleansing services and facilities, including follow-up investigations in response to complaints. District management staff of the Department have also stepped up inspections and monitoring of contractors' performances in order to enhance hygiene conditions of the illegal refuse dumping black spots. The Department will continue to work with respective DCs to closely monitor the cleanliness and hygiene condition of the dumping black spots, enhance public education and publicity as well as step up law enforcement actions as necessary.

- End -

**Top 5 Locations of Illegal Dumping of Refuse
(as at March 2019)**

District	Location
Central and Western	Li Yuen Street East
	Li Yuen Street West
	Elgin Street
	Staunton Street
	Davis Street near Hau Wo Street
Wan Chai	Outside Temporary Refuse Collection Point at Mount Butler Road
	No. 348 Hennessy Road
	No. 2 O'Brien Road
	Rear Lane of On On Building at Nos. 123-125 Lockhart Road
	Junction of Cannon Street and Jaffe Road
Eastern	Junction of Shing On Street and No.118 Shau Kei Wan Road
	Nos. 382-386 Shau Kei Wan Road, Shau Kei Wan
	No. 373 Shau Kei Wan Road, Shau Kei Wan
	Outside Nam On Street Public Toilet
	Outside A Kung Ngam Village Road Refuse Collection Point
Southern	Outside Lee Nam Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Temporary Refuse Collection Point opposite Pokfulam Village
	Junction of Hing Wo Street and Ka Wo Street outside Tin Wan Market
	Aberdeen Old Main Street
	Outside Chuk Hom Kok Temporary Refuse Collection Point
Islands	Outside Silver View Centre, Ngan Kwong Wan Road, Mui Wo
	Outside Mui Wo Pier Car Park, Mui Wo
	Tung Chung Road North near Lamppost FB8749 and FB8750
	Bin Site next to 44 Wang Long, Yung Shue Wan, Lamma Island
	Bin Site next to Lamppost BC0507, Chi Ma Wan Road, South Lantau
Yau Tsim	Star Ferry Pier, Tsim Sha Tsui
	Junction of Battery Street and Saigon Street
	Junction of Parkes Street and Bowring Street
	Junction of Dundas Street and Waterloo Road (outside Kwong Wah Hospital)
	Rear lane of Nos. 2 - 40 Portland Street

District	Location
Mong Kok	Outside Skyway House, No. 3 Sham Mong Road
	Pavement of Larch Street
	Junction of Poplar Street and Tai Nan Street (Outside Poplar Street Substation)
	Junction of Ferry Street and Shan Tung Street
	Junction of Ferry Street and Nelson Street (Outside Shun King Building)
Sham Shui Po	Junction of Ki Lung Street and Pei Ho Street
	Junction of Tai Nan Street and Pei Ho Street
	Pavement outside Fuk Wing Street Rest Garden
	Kim Sin Lane
	Junction of Kweilin Street and Lai Chi Kok Road
Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue North (near Gillies Avenue Post Office)
	Junction of Ma Tau Wai Road and Hok Yuen Street (near Hung Hom Square)
	Roundabout of Wan On Street
	No. 99 Dock Street
	Junction of York Road and To Fuk Road
Wong Tai Sin	Junction of Sam Chuk Street and Tsat Po Street, San Po Kong
	Kam Fung Street
	Yan Oi Street (near Lamp post no. AA7256)
	Rear lane of Nos. 19-33 Hong Keung Street
	Outside Hsin Kuang Centre at Ying Fung Lane
Kwun Tong	Lam Tin Estate near entrance of Saint Edward's Mass Centre (Lin Tak Road)
	Lam Tin MTR Station Exit A near Bank of China
	Under Footbridge at New clear Water Bay Road near Ngau Chi Wan Substation.
	Pavement at Choi Ha Road, opposite Jordan Valley Swimming Pool
	Outside Choi Shek Lane Refuse Collection Point
Kwai Tsing	Outside Tai Chuen Ping Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tam Kon Shan Road Refuse Collection Point
	Lam Tin Street
	Kwong Fai Circuit
	Shek Man Path

District	Location
Tsuen Wan	Outside Luen Yan Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Wo Yi Hop Village Refuse Collection Point
	Yi Pei Square
	Hau Tei Square
	Tai Pei Square
Tuen Mun	Outside Tsing Yeung Circuit Refuse Collection Point
	Outside San Hing Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Ho Fat Lane
	Tat Fuk Road near lamppost nos. BD2940 and BD2938
	Tin Tei Yan Road (near Tin Tei Yan Road Public Toilet)
Yuen Long	Outside Ka Lung Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Tao Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Shan Pui Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Long Ha Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tung Tai Wai San Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
North	Ho Sheung Heung Pai Fung Road near lamppost no. V5223
	Outside Kam Tsin (Fung Shui Grave) Refuse Collection Point
	Yip Fung Street Car Park, Fanling
	Bin Site near Lamppost no. EB5319 at Ping Yeung Village, Ta Ku Ling
	Outside Queen's Hill Refuse Collection Point
Tai Po	Outside Nam Hang Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Po Lookout Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Wong Yue Tan Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Pan Chung Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Shek Kwu Lung Village Refuse Collection Point
Sha Tin	Outside Siu Lek Yuen Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Sha Tin Wai Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside San Tin Village Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Fo Tan Village Refuse Collection Point
	Car Park near 8623 Tai Po Road – Sha Tin Heights
Sai Kung	Tong Ming Street and Po Hong Road (outside the Beverly Garden)
	Outside Yi Chun Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Fui Yiu Lane Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Pik Sha Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Chung Hau Village Refuse Collection Point

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)381

(Question Serial No. 3593)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Chief Executive has mentioned in the Policy Address that the Government has completed the studies on site selection and will plan to spare space at the section of Tin Fuk Road outside Tin Shui Wai MTR Station for building a new public market; the public market in Tung Chung will be built at the lower floors of a commercial building in Area 6, which is adjacent to Tung Chung MTR Station. The Government is also identifying sites for public markets in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North New Development Area (NDA).

1. Please advise on the expenditure and the manpower involved in building new public markets and the timetable for implementation.
2. When will the details of the projects be announced, and how will the district councils and the public be consulted?
3. Does the Department have plans to review the planning standards in relation to public markets as set out in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines and re-establish objective standards for building public markets with reference to various factors, such as population and the circumstances in individual communities?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)

Reply:

1. As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build 2 new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre. We have also initially identified suitable sites in the east of Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) for public markets. Well-connected by public transport and close to future train stations and public transport interchanges, these new market sites will be more accessible to members of the public. Apart from the above, the Government is also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and Kwu Tung North NDA to build new markets.

These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets which will be air-conditioned and include new design features so as to provide more choices to the public in purchasing fresh food.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning of new markets with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. Further details of the new market projects would be available upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

2. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and FEHD consulted the Islands District Council and Yuen Long District Council in October 2018 on the Tung Chung Town Centre and Tin Shui Wai new market projects respectively. Members generally supported the proposals. We will continue to maintain liaison with stakeholders and consult the relevant District Councils on the progress of the various new market projects as appropriate.
3. FHB conducted a policy review on public markets in 2007 to 2008 which concluded that the future provision of new public markets should be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure efficient use of public resources. Apart from the population of the area in question, other relevant factors that should be considered include the demographic mix, community needs, the presence of market facilities nearby, the number of fresh provision retail outlets available in the vicinity, and public sentiment towards the preservation of hawker areas in the particular locality. The Government consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene and all District Councils on the review findings in 2008. As a result of the policy review, those parts concerning public markets in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG) (which deals with retail facilities) were amended in April 2009 and have remained in force since then. The revised HKPSG is based on a more holistic consideration of the relevant factors above, rather than just the size of the population, in the planning of public markets. When preparing or reviewing town plans, the Planning Department will consult the relevant policy bureaux and departments, so as to ascertain whether there is a need to reserve land for public markets. We will, in the light of social developments and the actual situation on the ground, assess the need to review the planning guidelines for public markets as and when appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)382

(Question Serial No. 3594)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to improving municipal facilities, please provide the number of public markets installed with closed-circuit television (CCTV) against the total number of public markets in the territory.

- a) Please advise on the criteria for installing CCTV in public markets and whether there are indicators of the clarity of CCTV; if no, the reason(s).
- b) Does the Department have any plan to install CCTV in public markets with no or insufficient CCTV? If yes, will all public markets in the territory be covered? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
- c) Please provide the number of public markets managed by contractors against the total number of public markets in the territory.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 90)

Reply:

At present, close-circuit televisions (CCTVs) are installed in 39 out of the 98 public markets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) for security reasons. They facilitate the surveillance of market operation, as well as early detection and deterrence of illegal activities.

With regard to operational needs, privacy consideration and availability of suitable space, CCTVs are normally installed at such locations as entrance lobbies, loading/unloading bays and passenger lifts, etc. CCTVs installed in public markets provide images clear enough to serve security purpose. In general, the Department will consider upgrading facilities in public markets, including the installation of CCTVs, taking into account operational needs and actual circumstances of individual public markets.

At present, the Department has outsourced the management of 63 out of its 98 public markets. The contractors are responsible for supporting the operation of these public markets, including day-to-day market management, cleansing and pest control. The Department deploys staff to monitor the work and performance of the contractors to ensure their compliance with the terms and conditions of the service contracts. The Department is also responsible for enforcing relevant legislation and tenancy agreements in all public markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)383

(Question Serial No. 3597)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (a) Does the estimated expenditure for improving municipal facilities cover the enhancement of the labour benefits of cleansing workers? If yes, please provide the details; if no, please give the reason(s).
- (b) Apart from strengthening hardware support for public toilets, are there any plans to improve the resting facilities of cleansing workers?
- (c) Given that the cleansing workers are employed by management service contractors on inadequate employment terms and conditions, will the Government take any improvement measures? If yes, please provide the details; if no, please give the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 93)

Reply:

(a) & (c) Following announcement in the Chief Executive's Policy Address, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adopt the following new enhancement measures for service tenders to be issued on or after 1 April 2019 to protect outsourced non-skilled workers (including toilet attendants) employed by its service contractors -

- (i) the weighting of technical assessment of the marking scheme will increase from the current 30% to 50%;
- (ii) the weighting of wage level will increase to 25 points out of 100 points (25%) in the technical assessment;

- (iii) a contractual gratuity being 6% of the total wages earned by a non-skilled worker will be provided for the worker with no less than one year's service of a continuous contract upon completion of an employment contract or termination of employment (save for summary dismissal as a serious disciplinary action);
- (iv) statutory holiday pay will be provided for a non-skilled worker having been employed under a continuous contract for not less than a month; and
- (v) if a non-skilled worker is required to work when typhoon signal no. 8 or above is hoisted, the amount of wages for that day/shift's work should be at least 150% of the wages that the worker is originally entitled to.

To benefit non-skilled workers engaged in the service contracts during the transitional period between the announcement of the new policy in October 2018 and the effective date of 1 April 2019, the Department has negotiated with the service contractors concerned to incorporate relevant new enhancement measures into the service contracts by making top-up payments on a reimbursement basis for the additional costs incurred.

(b) Generally speaking, toilet attendant services are provided in public toilets with high utilisation rates or located at tourist spots. At present, 264 public toilets managed by the Department are provided with toilet attendants, of which 231 of them are provided with attendant rooms. If circumstances permit, the Department will make available attendant rooms when the toilets are refurbished.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)384

(Question Serial No. 4755)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the outsourced service contractors of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please provide the following information:

	2018-19	Percentage of increase over the previous year
Number of outsourced service contracts		
Number of workers engaged by outsourced service providers		
Types of services provided by outsourced service providers (including but not limited to services for construction and engineering works, property and facility management, mechanical plant and equipment maintenance, information management and information system, environmental hygiene, security, etc.)		
Average monthly salary of outsourced workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$30,001 or above • \$15,001 - \$30,000 • \$10,001 - \$15,000 • \$8,001 - \$10,000 • \$6,760 - \$8,000 • below \$6,760 		
Average length of service of outsourced workers		

Percentage of outsourced workers in the total number of staff in the Department		
Number of outsourced workers working: 5 days a week 6 days a week		
Weekly working hours of outsourced workers Weekly maximum working hours Average weekly working hours		
Number of workers with / amount of severance payments or long service payments offset by or contract gratuities calculated from the accrued benefits attributable to the employer's contributions to MPF		

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 350)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

	2018-19 (As at 31.12.2018)	Increase from 2017-18
Number of outsourced service contracts	159	+4.61%
Number of staff employed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department)'s outsourced contractors	13 043	+4.70%
Type of outsourced service	Street cleansing, waste collection, market / hawker bazaar cleansing, market management and related services, government building cleansing, security guard, pest control and other services	
Average committed monthly wage of outsourced non-skilled workers ^{Note}	\$9,228	+2.80%
Ratio between number of outsourced staff and staff of the Department	4.89 : 1	+6.07%
Average employment period of outsourced staff	The Department does not keep the information sought.	
Number of working days per week of outsourced staff		
Working hours per week of outsourced staff		
Amount of Mandatory Provident Fund offset for severance payment / long service payment		

Note: Only the committed monthly wage of non-skilled workers is available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)385

(Question Serial No. 5238)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Over the past few years, the Department stated that it would close public markets which were under-utilised. Given the indication by the Department that the same actions will be taken in 2019-20, please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of public markets closed in the past 5 years as a result of under-utilisation;
2. the public markets which the Department is planning to close this year (including their names, locations and occupancy rates set out in tabular form); and
3. the measures to improve the occupancy rate of market stalls.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 300)

Reply:

1. As promulgated in the 2018 Policy Address, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) is conducting a comprehensive review of the usage and development potential of existing markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans for fulfilment of policy objectives of optimising land uses, benefitting the public and promoting district development.

As a result of demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having very low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closure of such markets will release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. When considering whether an under-utilised market is to be closed, the Department will take into account a host of factors, including the vacancy rate, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the likely cost-effectiveness of upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. The Department will consult the

relevant District Council(s) and the market tenants to be affected on any market closure plans.

In the past 5 years ending 31 March 2019, 3 markets, namely Shau Kei Wan Market, Tsuen King Circuit Market and Tai Yuen Street Cooked Food Market were closed due to consistently high vacancy rates.

2. In 2019-20, the Department plans to close Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market in Sham Shui Po and Tui Min Hoi Market in Sai Kung. Their occupancy rates were 39% and 56% respectively as at 31 December 2018.
3. As an on-going initiative, the Department has been taking forward measures to improve the operating environment of public markets, including replacement of aged lifts and escalators, improvement of ventilation, lighting systems and fire services, refurbishment of external walls, refurbishment of toilets, etc. as appropriate. Promotional activities are also conducted to enhance the patronage of public markets. These include festive celebration and thematic activities, display of multi-language recipes as well as publication of booklets which provide updated market information.

At the same time, the Department will step up enforcement against sitting tenants for inactive operation or unauthorised change of the use of stalls.

A dedicated team has been set up in the Department to draw up and implement the Market Modernisation Programme to modernise, revitalise and consolidate existing public markets as appropriate and undertake management reviews to improve the overall viability of the markets.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)386

(Question Serial No. 5239)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is the duty of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to plan new market facilities at suitable locations. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. the district(s) and site(s) identified for the proposed development of new public markets; and
2. the estimated completion date of the new public market(s).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 301)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre respectively. The Government has also initially identified suitable sites in the east of the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area (NDA) for public markets. Apart from the above, we are also looking for locations in Tseung Kwan O and the Kwu Tung North NDA to build new markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets.

Further details of the new market projects would be available when the scope of works is finalised, and upon the completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)387

(Question Serial No. 5240)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2014, the Food and Health Bureau commissioned a consultancy study on ways to improve the operating environment of public markets. In this connection, please advise on:

1. the progress of implementation of the recommendations concerned;
2. the implementation of improvement measures in the 6 selected markets in the past 3 years; and
3. the occupancy rate and vacancy rate of the 6 selected markets in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 302)

Reply:

1&2. The consultant commissioned by the Food and Health Bureau (the Consultant) selected 6 representative markets for detailed study and put forward specific improvement recommendations. These 6 markets are Lockhart Road Market, Sheung Fung Street Market, Yau Ma Tei Market, Wing Fong Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market and Ngau Chi Wan Market. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has completed the consultations with the Market Management Consultative Committees (MMCCs) of these markets. The MMCCs expressed support for some of the proposals that do not require temporary closure of stalls or suspension of business. Having considered MMCCs' views and the results of the feasibility studies, improvement works of different scales have been taken forward in Lockhart Road Market, Sheung Fung Street Market, Yau Ma Tei Market and Wing Fong Street Market. The works in Wing Fong Street Market has been completed while those in the other 3 markets will be completed progressively in 2019-20. With the introduction of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), the potential improvement works in the remaining 2 markets, namely Tsuen Wan Market and Ngau

Chi Wan Market, will be considered under the context of the MMP taking into account the views expressed by the relevant MMCCs.

The Consultant also suggested implementing some non-physical improvement measures relating to the management, hygiene, as well as marketing and promotion of public markets. On the management of public markets, the Department is conducting a comprehensive review of its existing public markets and will formulate specific improvement measures for both their facilities and management in a systematic manner. On marketing and promotion, promotional activities are conducted to enhance the patronage of public markets. These include festive celebration and thematic activities, display of multi-language recipes as well as publication of booklets which provide updated market information.

3. The information sought is provided at Annex.

- End -

Serial No.	Name of Market	No. of stalls			Occupancy Rate as at 31 December ^(a)			Vacancy Rate ^(b) as at 31 December		
		2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
1	Lockhart Road Market	166	166	166	80%	77%	74%	20%	23%	26%
2	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	71	71	100%	99%	99%	0%	1%	1%
3	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	144	144	96%	94%	90%	4%	6%	10%
4	Wing Fong Street Market	112	112	114	92%	98%	85%	8%	2%	15%
5	Tsuen Wan Market	381	381	381	93%	90%	89%	7%	10%	11%
6	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	402	402	93%	90%	87%	7%	10%	13%

- (a) Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- (b) Vacancy rate is the percentage of stalls not leased versus the total number of stalls in a market.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)388

(Question Serial No. 5241)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to implement the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets in 2019-20. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. the details of the measures and timetable of the programme; and
2. the estimated expenditure of the programme and the manpower involved.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 303)

Reply:

Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward.

The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for revitalising Aberdeen Market will also set a model for similar future projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of any project under the MMP can only be determined when the scope of

works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)389****(Question Serial No. 5242)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (3) Market Management and Hawker ControlControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide information on the cases where actions were taken against non-compliant tenants in public markets in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by year, nature of irregularities and action taken by the Department.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 304)Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

Calendar year	Number of prosecutions¹ against public market tenants	Number of convictions
2014	1 291	1 214
2015	1 658	1 523
2016	2 065	1 911
2017	1 893	1 916
2018	1 697	1 637

¹ Breakdown of prosecutions by nature of irregularities in public market is not available. Prosecutions instituted in a year may be convicted in the following year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)390

(Question Serial No. 5243)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In relation to the legislation against shop front extensions by a fixed penalty of \$1,500 that came into effect in September 2016, please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of fixed penalty notices and warnings issued against non-compliance cases since the implementation of the ordinance concerned; and
2. the manpower and expenditure involved in the enforcement actions.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 305)

Reply:

1. Since the commencement of the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570) on 24 September 2016 until 31 December 2018, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) issued a total of 16 541 Fixed Penalty Notices against shop front extensions (SFEs). The Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of warnings issued.
2. The fixed penalty system provides an additional tool for staff of the Department in tackling SFE problems. Any work involved would be taken as part of the Department's overall enforcement work in this respect and further breakdown of the manpower and expenditure is not available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)391

(Question Serial No. 5244)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on:

1. the Department's expenditure on and manpower for the management of public markets in the past 5 years; and
2. the Department's estimated expenditure on and manpower for the management of public markets in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 306)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Expenditure on market management (\$ million)	741.0	720.4	840.0	807.1	853.1 (Revised estimate)	949.7 (Estimate)
Manpower	384	376	390	386	416	417

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)392

(Question Serial No. 5245)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the public markets in each district of the territory, their names and addresses, the number of shops in the markets, the occupancy rate, vacancy rate and expenditure on management involved.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 307)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex.

There is no breakdown on the expenditure on market management for each of the public markets. The total expenditure on management of public markets as a whole in 2018-19 (revised estimate) is \$853.1 million.

- End -

Serial No.	Name of Market [@]	As at 31 December 2018		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate*	Vacancy rate
1	Aberdeen Market	335	96%	4%
2	Aldrich Bay Market	71	92%	8%
3	Apleichau Market	63	97%	3%
4	Bowrington Road Market	296	93%	7%
5	Causeway Bay Market	51	96%	4%
6	Centre Street Market	46	76%	24%
7	Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	32	87.5%	12.5%
8	Chai Wan Market	174	92%	8%
9	Cheung Chau Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
10	Cheung Chau Market	240	98%	2%
11	Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market [#]	28	39%	61%
12	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	12	100%	0%
13	Choi Hung Road Market	116	66%	34%
14	Electric Road Market	99	81%	19%
15	Fa Yuen Street Market	180	92%	8%
16	Fo Tan (East) Cooked Food Market	24	100%	0%
17	Fo Tan (West) Cooked Food Market	15	100%	0%
18	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	86	69%	31%
19	Heung Che Street Market	225	95%	5%
20	Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
21	Hung Hom Market	224	98%	2%
22	Hung Shui Kiu Temporary Market	172	72%	28%
23	Java Road Market	194	94%	6%
24	Ka Ting Cooked Food Market	15	60%	40%
25	Kam Tin Market	41	100%	0%
26	Kik Yeung Road Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%

Serial No.	Name of Market [®]	As at 31 December 2018		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate*	Vacancy rate
27	Kin Wing Cooked Food Market	17	100%	0%
28	Kin Yip Street Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
29	Kowloon City Market	581	95%	5%
30	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
31	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food Market	11	91%	9%
32	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	98	100%	0%
33	Kwun Chung Market	218	85%	15%
34	Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	29	97%	3%
35	Lai Wan Market	42	98%	2%
36	Lam Tei Market	7	100%	0%
37	Lau Fau Shan Market	25	88%	12%
38	Lei Yue Mun Market	20	95%	5%
39	Lockhart Road Market	166	74%	26%
40	Luen Wo Hui Market	338	99%	1%
41	Mong Kok Cooked Food Market	14	100%	0%
42	Mui Wo Cooked Food Market	20	100%	0%
43	Mui Wo Market	35	91%	9%
44	Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market	28	82%	18%
45	Ngau Chi Wan Market	402	87%	13%
46	Ngau Tau Kok Market	466	86%	14%
47	North Kwai Chung Market	222	91%	9%
48	North Point Market	42	83%	17%
49	On Ching Road Flower Market	13	100%	0%
50	Pei Ho Street Market	234	99%	1%
51	Peng Chau Market	18	100%	0%
52	Plover Cove Road Market	244	82%	18%
53	Po On Road Market	449	89%	11%
54	Quarry Bay Market	113	69%	31%

Serial No.	Name of Market [@]	As at 31 December 2018		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate*	Vacancy rate
55	Queen Street Cooked Food Market	11	100%	0%
56	Sai Kung Market	209	91%	9%
57	Sai Wan Ho Market	274	98%	2%
58	Sai Ying Pun Market	102	87%	13%
59	San Hui Market	324	98%	2%
60	Sha Tau Kok Market	66	100%	0%
61	Sha Tin Market	172	99%	1%
62	Sham Tseng Temporary Market	29	90%	10%
63	Shek Tong Tsui Market	151	91%	9%
64	Shek Wu Hui Market	393	100%	0%
65	Sheung Fung Street Market	71	99%	1%
66	Sheung Wan Market	223	98%	2%
67	Shui Wo Street Market	302	98%	2%
68	Smithfield Market	216	99%	1%
69	Stanley Waterfront Mart	20	85%	15%
70	Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market	17	82%	18%
71	Tai Kiu Market	379	97%	3%
72	Tai Kok Tsui Market	135	97%	3%
73	Tai O Market	26	88%	12%
74	Tai Po Hui Market	313	100%	0%
75	Tai Shing Street Market	442	93%	7%
76	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
77	Tai Wai Market	195	85%	15%
78	Tang Lung Chau Market	34	94%	6%
79	Tin Wan Market	180	96%	4%
80	Tokwawan Market	267	97%	3%
81	Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%

Serial No.	Name of Market [@]	As at 31 December 2018		
		No. of stalls	Occupancy rate [*]	Vacancy rate
82	Tsing Yi Market	76	99%	1%
83	Tsuen Wan Market	381	89%	11%
84	Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market	56	93%	7%
85	Tui Min Hoi Market	34	56%	44%
86	Tung Chau Street Temporary Market	359	32%	68%
87	Tung Yick Market	446	41%	59%
88	Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	8	100%	0%
89	Wanchai Market	50	100%	0%
90	Wing Fong Street Market	114	85%	15%
91	Wo Yi Hop Road Cooked Food Market	18	100%	0%
92	Wong Nai Chung Market	69	96%	4%
93	Yan Oi Market	108	94%	6%
94	Yau Ma Tei Market	144	90%	10%
95	Yee On Street Market	65	92%	8%
96	Yeung Uk Road Market	318	96%	4%
97	Yue Kwong Road Market	197	87%	13%
98	Yue Wan Market	380	94%	6%

Remarks:

- [@] The information in respect of a market closed in February 2019 is excluded.
- ^{*} Occupancy rate is the percentage of let-out stalls versus the total number of stalls in a market. Degree of activity of let-out stalls varies.
- [#] Planned to be closed in June 2019.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)393

(Question Serial No. 5246)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

One of the duties of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is to control on-street hawking activities. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the number of unlicensed hawkers prosecuted by the Department as a result of selling cooked food, food (non-cooked food) and non-food-related dry goods in the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 308)

Reply:

The information sought is provided at Annex. Further breakdown is not available.

- End -

Number of prosecutions taken against unlicensed hawkers

Calendar year	Number of Prosecutions
2014	26 025
2015	23 054
2016	15 310
2017	6 402
2018	5 564

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)394

(Question Serial No. 5247)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Some on-street hawkers sell traditional snacks with distinctive characteristics. Some of these snacks (e.g. the blown sugar and dragon's beard candy) have even been included in the Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. the existing policy of the Department on hawkers skilled in traditional craftsmanship;
2. the number of prosecutions instituted against this type of hawkers in the past 5 years;
3. whether the Department has discussed the arrangement for preservation of intangible cultural heritage with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Intangible Cultural Heritage Office. If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
4. whether the Government will consider issuing licences in respect of folk handicrafts to allow on-street hawking of such handicrafts in order to preserve local intangible cultural heritage items. If yes, what are the details? If no, how will the intangible cultural heritage be preserved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 309)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is committed to formulating a hawker policy which can strike an optimal balance between allowing licensed hawking business to thrive on one hand and meeting other legitimate concerns to avoid unreasonable nuisance to the local community and to ensure food safety, environmental hygiene and public security on the other. In following up the issue of licences to surveyed unlicensed street tradesmen with characteristics reminiscent of our local culture and heritage, FEHD has been keeping contact with these tradesmen, and assisting them in seeking clearance

from relevant departments and obtaining support from the District Councils, so that licences could be issued to them for operating legally in-situ or at other suitable sites. FEHD will continue to follow up these cases in accordance with the established policy.

2. The number of prosecutions taken against unlicensed hawkers in the past 5 years (2014 to 2018) is tabulated as follows –

Calendar year	No. of prosecutions
2014	26 025
2015	23 054
2016	15 310
2017	6 402
2018	5 564

Further breakdown of the number of prosecutions of specific types of hawkers is not available.

- 3-4. While the Government should allow room for traditional cultural activities and / or handicrafts, the promotion of culture and tradition, however, should not be an excuse to justify insulation from market forces. A licensed hawker would still have the primary responsibility to identify a mode of operation and a market niche that can sustain the hawking business. At present, FEHD does not have a plan to issue on-street hawker licences for preservation of intangible cultural heritage in tandem with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. That said, the preservation of intangible cultural heritage will continue to be taken care of by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Office.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)395

(Question Serial No. 5248)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is proposed that a public market will be built in Tung Chung and the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area respectively. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. the progress of the preparatory work for the provision of the 2 public markets and the manpower involved; and
2. the resources allocated by the Department in the coming year for the construction/design of the said public markets.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 310)

Reply:

The Government has initially identified suitable sites in the east of Tung Chung New Town Extension Area as well as in the southwest of Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area for public markets. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning of new markets with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. Further details of the new market projects would be available when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)396

(Question Serial No. 5249)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In the coming year, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will issue new hawker licences for trading at suitable vacant fixed pitches. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

- (1) The Department plans to issue new hawker licences in 2019 while at the same time expects a decrease in the number of fixed-pitch hawkers and itinerant hawkers. What is/are the reason(s)?
- (2) Will the Department issue more itinerant hawker licences to help promote the development of community economy?
- (3) What hawker control measures were taken in each district during the Lunar New Year in 2019? Will the arrangement and practice of delineation of pitches on the ground be regularised? If yes, the details; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 311)

Reply:

- (1) The decrease in the number of licensed hawkers from 5 740 in 2017 to 5 531 in 2018 was attributed to natural attrition and voluntary surrender of fixed-pitch hawker licences for ex-gratia payment (EGP) under the 5-year Hawker Assistance Scheme. The number of licensed hawkers in 2019 (on a calendar year basis) is estimated to decrease further for the same reasons. Our estimation does not take into account the number of fixed-pitch hawker licences to be issued under the impending re-allocation exercise where the balloting procedure will take place within 2019.
- (2) Itinerant hawkers usually operate at prime locations. They may impede pedestrian and/or vehicular flow with their trolleys and goods and bring about environmental hygiene and general nuisance concerns. Hence, the Government maintains the existing policy of not issuing new itinerant hawker licences.

- (3) To deter the illegal activities of cooked food hawkers during the Lunar New Year in 2019, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) enhanced publicity at strategic locations through mounting roadside banners and handing out notices in the run up to the festival period. Public health and safety of members of the public and enforcement staff are of our primary concerns when carrying out enforcement action against illegal cooked food hawking activities and the Department would pay due attention to the actual circumstances before any such enforcement action is to be taken. Delineation of markings on the ground has never been part of the Department's enforcement consideration.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)397

(Question Serial No. 5250)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Government submitted the draft Resource Handbook for Bazaar Applications to the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Bazaars in November 2017. Given that the Food and Health Bureau is the major policy bureau for promoting bazaar development, please advise this Committee on:

1. the progress of and timetable for drafting the Resource Handbook for Bazaar Applications;
2. the expenditure, manpower and respective ranks currently involved in handling issues relating to bazaars; and
3. the expenditure, manpower and respective ranks involved in handling issues relating to bazaars in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 312)

Reply:

1. The Government issued the first draft of the "Resource Handbook for Bazaar Application", which sets out the general requirements for the permits or licences involved in holding bazaars, to the Legislative Council Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Bazaars in November 2017. The Government will take into account comments from relevant departments and stakeholders and update the Handbook when appropriate.
2. and 3. Staff of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) involved in the processing of applications for holding bazaar activities which require a Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licence and/or Temporary Food Factory Licence are also involved in other duties. The Department does not have a separate breakdown of the expenditure, manpower and respective ranks involved in bazaar-related work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)398

(Question Serial No. 5251)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the promotion of bazaar development, please set out in tabular form the number of enquiries about and applications for organising bazaars, as well as the number of bazaars successfully organised under the existing policy in the past 3 years. Has the Department reviewed the bazaar policy?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 313)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) does not keep statistics on the number of enquiries about and applications for holding bazaars, or the number of bazaars held in the past 3 years. A list of bazaars issued with Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licences and/or Temporary Food Factory Licences and/or relevant permits from 2016 to 2019 is provided at Annex. The Food and Health Bureau and FEHD reviewed the Government's hawker policy in 2015. In the context of that review, the feasibility of establishing hawker bazaars on a district basis was explored. The Government keeps an open mind towards proposals on local bazaars and their mode of operation, so long as food safety, environmental hygiene and public safety would not be compromised.

Depending on the specific details of the bazaar proposals, the policy bureau concerned will, according to the roles they play, give comments on matters related to their policy areas respectively while the departments concerned will process bazaar proposals according to the established procedures and criteria.

- End -

Bazaars issued with Temporary Places of Public Entertainment Licences and/or Temporary Food Factory Licences and/or relevant permits from 2016 to March 2019

District	Bazaar [#]	Location
2016		
Sham Shui Po	2016深水埗基層見光墟	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street
2017		
Sham Shui Po	農曆年熟食墟市2017	Under footbridge of Yen Chow Street
	深水埗·深水情·街坊節2017暨新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground
	趁墟 ● 趁2017復活墟市@深水埗	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street
	夏日見光墟	Open space in front of No.5 Wai Chi Street
	深水埗中秋濃情見光墟	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street
	聖誕暖笠笠墟市	Wai Chi Street Playground
Kwun Tong	懷舊x活力社區經濟嘉年華@觀塘	Upper Ngau Tau Kok Estate
Wong Tai Sin	趁墟 ● 趁熱鬧玩樂墟@黃大仙	Upper Wong Tai Sin Estate
Yuen Long	元朗農墟	Amphitheatre of Tin Yiu Estate in Tin Shui Wai
North	北區墟市節	Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point
	清河有個墟	Ching Ho Estate
Wanchai	上班一族打氣墟	Gloucester Road Garden
2018		
Sham Shui Po	新春食通街	Open space near Tung Chau Street Temporary Market at No.269 Tung Chau Street
	深水埗·深水情·街坊節2018暨新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground and the pavement in Maple Street
	2018復活·墟市	Maple Street Playground
	女人墟	Open space at junction of Kiu Kiang Street and Hai Tan Street
	深水埗見光墟市	Wai Chi Street Playground
Kwun Tong	型活墟	126 Hoi Bun Road
Wong Tai Sin	黃大仙繽紛美食墟	Wong Tai Sin Square

District	Bazaar[#]	Location
Yuen Long	新春美食嘉年華	Open space in the vicinity of Lam Hau Tsuen
North	清河有個墟	Ching Ho Estate
	北區墟市節	Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point
Tai Po	聖誕音樂嘉年華@林村	Lam Tsuen The Wishing Square
2019		
Sham Shui Po	香港墟市節2018閉幕禮	Maple Street Playground
	深水埗農曆新年見光墟	Po On Road Playground
	深水埗·深水情·新春美食墟市	Maple Street Playground
Wong Tai Sin	趁墟@黃大仙	Wong Tai Sin Square
North	北區墟市節	Shek Wu Hui Farmers' Produce Retailing Point
	清河有個墟	Ching Ho Estate
Central / Western	西區墟市	Under Flyover of Hill Road

#Only Chinese names of the Bazaar are available.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE) 399

(Question Serial No. 5252)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Department has stated that food safety and environmental hygiene messages would be promoted via social media. In this connection, please advise this Committee on:

1. whether there are publicity programmes and activities for promotion on social media; and
2. the manpower, estimated expenditure and objectives involved in the promotion of relevant messages on social media.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 314)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been making use of social media for strengthening the dissemination of environmental hygiene and food safety messages to the public with the aim of increasing their awareness and soliciting their support.

At present, the Department runs a Facebook page and an Instagram page for the “Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak” to disseminate messages on environmental hygiene. The Department also maintains a Facebook page on the Centre for Food Safety (CFS), and a Facebook page and an Instagram page on “Hong Kong's Action on Salt and Sugar Reduction” to promote food safety and healthy eating with less salt and sugar by posting useful information and advice for the public. In addition, the Department arranges broadcast of related Announcements in the Public Interest on social media platforms such as YouTube to enhance online publicity.

The Facebook and Instagram pages on “Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak” and “Hong Kong's Action on Salt and Sugar Reduction” are maintained by contract service providers under supervision of the Department while the CFS Facebook page is managed by in-house staff. The Department plans to contract out the maintenance of the CFS Facebook page

and the setting up of a CFS Instagram page through a professional service provider in 2019.

The estimated expenditure on relevant service contracts in 2019-20 is about \$3.9 million. In-house staff involved in the above publicity work are also tasked with other duties. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower so deployed.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)400

(Question Serial No. 5253)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Department is responsible for providing efficient and effective public cleansing services. With regard to the cleansing service contracts for the 18 districts in Hong Kong, please set out in tabular form the duration of the contracts, the contract prices, the expiry dates of the contracts and the number of cleansing workers employed.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 315)

Reply:

The information on the duration, contract value and end date of the outsourced public cleansing services contracts awarded by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) is uploaded onto the "e-Tender Box" website of the Government Logistics Department:

https://www.gldpcms.gov.hk/etb_prod/jsp_public/sm/ssm00407r.jsp

Provided below is the number of cleansing workers employed by FEHD's service contractors for provision of public cleansing services -

District	Number of cleansing workers (as at 31.12.2018)
Central and Western	635
Eastern	198
Islands	271
Kowloon City	433
Kwai Tsing	295
Kwun Tong	374
Mong Kok	436
North	486
Sai Kung	368
Sha Tin	406
Sham Shui Po	459
Southern	209
Tai Po	292
Tsuen Wan	340
Tuen Mun	268
Wan Chai	506
Wong Tai Sin	195
Yau Tsim	291
Yuen Long	556
Cross-District	510
Total	7 528

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)401

(Question Serial No. 5279)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20, it is stated that the Department will oversee the development of new public markets at selected locations and the implementation of the Market Modernisation Programme to improve facilities of existing public markets.

1. Regarding the timetable for the development of the public market in Tung Chung, has the Department set a target completion date? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
2. Will the Department consider providing a temporary market before the completion of the market in Tung Chung? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
3. Regarding the timetable for the development of the public market in Tin Shui Wai, has the Department set a target completion date? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
4. Will the Department consider providing a temporary market before the completion of the market in Tin Shui Wai? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?
5. Will the Department consider providing another public market in Tin Shui Wai North? If yes, what are the details? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 276)

Reply:

As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government plans to build new public markets in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung Town Centre respectively. Well-connected by public transport and close to train stations and public transport interchanges, these new

market sites will be more accessible to the public. These projects are at different stages of planning. We are working with relevant departments in delivering these new markets.

In considering whether to provide a new public market, the Government will take into account factors such as demographic mix of the area, community needs, availability of market facilities and number of fresh provision retail outlets in the vicinity. On the suitability of any potential sites for a new public market when the need for it is confirmed, consideration will be given to their geographical location, existing and planned uses, usable area and transport facilities nearby, in order to ensure that, upon completion, the markets will be of a substantial scale and viability and that public finances and land resources can be optimised. The Government considers that locations of the new markets as currently proposed can serve the local community as well as the wider areas. Details of the new market projects would be available at a later stage when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

Similar to the case of permanent markets, relevant hygiene and safety requirements will need to be fulfilled for the operation of temporary markets. Considerable amount of resources will be required to provide the basic facilities for temporary markets, such as ceiling, stall partitions, electrical installations, water supply system, drainage system, sewage system, ventilation facilities, lighting systems, fire safety system, refuse processing facilities, loading areas, etc., if they were to be built. Experience also suggests many challenges in identifying a suitable location for the provision of temporary markets. Therefore, the difficulty in planning and providing temporary markets cannot be underestimated. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department currently has no plans to provide temporary markets in the areas concerned.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)402

(Question Serial No. 5604)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Will the Government inform the Committee:

- (1) of the respective numbers and percentages, in each of the past 5 years, of vegetable importers, wholesalers and retailers engaged in the trading of directly distributed vegetables?
- (2) of the respective quantities and percentages of directly distributed vegetables among the various kinds of vegetables imported to Hong Kong (including winter vegetables, summer vegetables, leafy vegetables, gourds, fruits, roots and rhizomes, beans, herbs, mushroom and others) in each of the past 5 years?
- (3) in each of the past 5 years, of (i) the number of vegetable samples taken by the Department for inspection and testing, (ii) the number of unsatisfactory samples (as well as the reasons for the unsatisfactory result), and (iii) the number of cases of poisoning due to consumption of vegetables with excessive pesticide residues, and among them, the respective numbers related to directly distributed vegetables and their percentages in the relevant totals?
- (4) whether the Department has assessed if directly distributed vegetables are suitable for consumption; if so, the details; if not, the reason(s). What are the measures in place to address public concerns over the safety of consumption of directly distributed vegetables?
- (5) whether the Department has studied if the prevalence of directly distributed vegetables in the market reveals that there are loopholes in the Food Surveillance Programme (FSP)? If it has done so and the outcome is in the affirmative, will the Department take measures to include directly distributed vegetables in the FSP, e.g. requiring that all vegetables supplied by the Mainland to Hong Kong must be distributed through the Vegetable Marketing Organization? If so, what are the details; if not, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 202)

Reply:

Hong Kong is a free market. All along, imported vegetables may either be distributed through wholesale markets (including the wholesale markets operated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), the Cheung Sha Wan Vegetable Marketing Organization (VMO) or other private wholesalers) or sold directly at retail outlets (direct sale). According to the information from the Census and Statistics Department, there were about 850 000 tonnes of imported vegetables in 2018. According to the information from AFCD, about 340 000 tonnes of vegetables were transacted through the wholesale markets operated by AFCD and the VMO in that year.

Whether vegetables are distributed through wholesalers is not relevant to safeguarding food safety. Wholesale markets primarily provide a trading platform for importers and retailers to facilitate business. All vegetables sold in Hong Kong for human consumption, regardless of whether the vegetables are distributed through the wholesale markets operated by AFCD or the VMO, are subject to local food safety regulatory mechanism.

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes samples of vegetables and their products at the import, wholesale and retail levels along a risk-based approach under its Food Surveillance Programme to safeguard food safety, regardless of whether the vegetables are distributed through wholesalers or are for direct sale. The numbers of samples of vegetables and their products taken for testing and the number of unsatisfactory samples from 2014 to 2018 are as follows –

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Number of samples taken	21 694	24 537	24 462	23 677	23 952	118 322
Number of unsatisfactory samples	40	97	65	26	44	272

The overall satisfactory rate of vegetables and their products in the past 5 years was 99.8%. The unsatisfactory samples were detected to have pesticide residues, preservatives or metallic contamination, etc. exceeding the relevant food safety standards. There was no food poisoning case caused by consuming foods with excessive pesticide residues during the same period of time.

CFS does not have statistics on the quantities and distribution channels of fresh imported vegetables by food traders.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)403****(Question Serial No. 5606)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please ask the Centre for Food Safety to set out in tabular form the following information on taking fish samples for testing in the past 5 years: (1) the frequency of sampling and testing; (2) the types of fish sampled and tested; (3) the places of purchase; (4) the substances/bacteria tested; (5) the test results/exceedances found; (6) the food sources; (7) whether recalls or cessation of sales of products were arranged; and (8) whether prosecutions were instituted.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 204)Reply:

From 2014 to 2018, the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department took a total of 11 784 samples of locally produced and imported fish, including freshwater fish, brackish water fish, seawater fish, and fish products at the import, wholesale and retail levels for comprehensive chemical analysis and microbiological testing along a risk-based approach under its Food Surveillance Programme. Breakdown of the numbers of samples taken by year is as follows -

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Number of samples tested	2 793	2 286	2 322	2 258	2 125	11 784
Number of unsatisfactory samples	6	14	18	9	11	58

The aforementioned 58 unsatisfactory samples were mostly detected to have veterinary drug residues, pesticide residues or metallic contamination exceeding the relevant food safety standards. 26 prosecutions were taken against the food traders and 12 food recall exercises were conducted.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)404****(Question Serial No. 6144)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

In respect of monitoring the safety of food supplied to Hong Kong, please advise on:

- (a) the number of Mainland production farms approved for supplying food to Hong Kong over the past 5 years, with a breakdown by province and type of food exported, such as vegetables, fruits, live pigs, live cattle, live chickens and freshwater fish, and the number of farms removed from the list of registered production farms for supplying food to Hong Kong; and
- (b) the number of inspections conducted by the Department to these farms, fish ponds, etc. in the past 5 years, with information on the samples collected for testing, the tests conducted and the test results.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 67)Reply:

- (a) Information on the types and numbers of registered Mainland farms eligible for export of food to Hong Kong from 2014 to 2018 is set out as follows –

Calendar year	Vegetable farms	Orchards	Poultry farms	Pig farms	Cattle farms	Goat farms	Aquatic food animal farms	Total
2014	459	3 622	36	216	34	1	181	4 549
2015	450	2 463	34	217	34	1	174	3 373
2016	442	2 978	34	213	36	1	191	3 895
2017	458	2 978	28	173	38	3	150	3 828
2018	458	3 384	29	154	36	3	122	4 186

Breakdown of the aforementioned Mainland farms as at 31 December 2018 by geographical locations is as follows –

Province / City / Autonomous Region	Vegetable farms	Orchard	Poultry farms	Pig farms	Cattle farms	Goat farms	Aquatic food animal farms
Anhui	2	6		1	1		
Beijing	6	1			5		
Chongqing	7	11		1			
Fujian	5	209					
Gansu	6	180					
Guangdong, Shenzhen and Zhuhai	116	86	27	77	1		89
Guangxi	8	35		10	1		1
Guizhou	9	21			1		
Hainan	7	36	2	3			
Hebei	17	170			4		
Heilongjiang		17			1		
Henan	9	15		14		1	
Hubei	13	21		7	2		10
Hunan	32	54		21			14
Jiangsu	14	7					1
Jiangxi	9	27		16			
Jilin		3			1		
Liaoning	5	245					4
Neimongol					5		
Ningxia	23	2			1		
Ningbo							
Qinghai					1		
Shaanxi		433			5		
Shandong	88	575					
Shanxi	3	233		1	6	1	
Shanghai	12	5		1			
Sichuan	3	109					
Tianjin	1	2			1		1
Xiamen	7			1			
Xinjiang		106					
Xizang		1					
Yunnan	48	714				1	
Zhejiang	8	60		1			2
Total	458	3 384	29	154	36	3	122

(b) Information on the types and numbers of Mainland farms inspected in the past 5 years is set out as follows –

Calendar year	Vegetable farms	Orchards	Poultry farms	Pig farms	Cattle farms	Goat farms	Aquatic food animal farms	Total
2014	17	3	29	8	5	0	7	69
2015	13	3	22	14	6	0	9	67
2016	9	3	25	19	3	1	5	65
2017	18	1	25	8	4	0	7	63
2018	7	4	16	7	7	0	13	54

The Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not take samples during these inspections, but collects samples of food at the import, wholesale and retail levels for testing along a risk-based approach to safeguard food safety.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)405****(Question Serial No. 6145)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please set out in tabular form the following information, with a breakdown by food type and place of origin, for the past 5 years:

- (1) the number of imported food samples tested;
- (2) the number of imported food samples which required a product recall, and the quantity of products recalled from the market; and
- (3) the shortest, longest and average time taken (in days) for conducting tests on samples of imported food involved in a product recall.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 68)Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes about 65 000 food samples each year at the import, wholesale and retail levels along a risk-based approach under its Food Surveillance Programme to safeguard food safety. CFS does not have breakdown on the numbers of locally produced and imported food samples. Breakdown of the numbers of samples tested over the past 5 years by food group is as follows -

Food group					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Vegetables, fruits and related products	26 600	29 700	30 800	29 900	29 500
Meat, poultry and related products	7 000	6 300	5 300	6 300	5 700
Aquatic products	6 700	5 800	5 600	5 900	5 500
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	8 200	7 900	9 500	9 800	10 000
Cereals, grains and related products	1 400	2 900	3 200	3 500	3 400
Others	14 100	11 700	11 100	11 800	11 900
Total	64 100	64 300	65 500	67 100	66 000

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

Food recall exercises may be initiated as a result of reports or complaints from various sources, including unsatisfactory testing results of food samples under CFS' regular Food Surveillance Programme, investigation results of food poisoning and complaint cases and notifications of food incidents by authorities of other economies.

From 2014 to 2018, there were a total of 35 samples under CFS' regular Food Surveillance Programme, including 3 of locally produced food and 32 of imported food, with unsatisfactory test results which led to the conduct of food recall exercises as required by CFS. The time taken for testing each of those samples varied and was about 12 days on average, depending on various factors including the complexity of the tests and the types of samples involved. The amounts of the implicated food products recalled from the market depend on various factors, such as whether the food traders had sold out all the products, the consumers had returned the products to the food traders, and the nature of the foods concerned. Insofar as those 32 unsatisfactory samples of imported food are concerned, their breakdown by food group and place of origin is as follows -

Food group	Number of samples (Place of origin)				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Vegetables, fruits and related products	1 (Mainland)	3 (Mainland; South Africa/ Chile/ United States)	1 (Taiwan)	1 (Taiwan)	1 (Mainland)
Meat, poultry and related products	-	-	-	-	-
Aquatic products	6 (Japan; Taiwan; Vietnam)	1 (New Zealand)	2 (Indian Ocean / Vietnam; Mainland)	2 (United Kingdom)	2 (Italy)
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	1 (Australia)	2 (Australia; New Zealand)	-	-	-
Cereals, grains and related products	-	1 (Japan)	-	1 (Mainland)	-
Others	3 (Germany; Korea; Taiwan)	-	-	3 (Australia; Indonesia; Netherlands)	1 (Egypt)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)406

(Question Serial No. 6146)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding sampling of imported foods for radiation level tests,

- a. please provide the number of samples taken, the number of unsatisfactory food samples detected and the places of origin of the unsatisfactory samples in the past 3 years; and
- b. has the Department stepped up the sampling and inspection programme in the 2019-20 Estimates? If yes, what are the details including the manpower and expenditure incurred? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 69)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducts radiation checking on every consignment of food products imported from Japan making use of the hand-held survey meters and collects food samples on a risk-based approach for laboratory testing of radiation levels. Also, CFS collects food samples imported from other economies for radiation testing on a risk-based approach. CFS conducted radiation tests on around 79 000, 89 000 and 99 000 samples of imported foods in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. The testing results were satisfactory.

CFS will continue its radiation testing arrangements for foods imported from Japan and other economies under a risk-based approach.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)407****(Question Serial No. 6147)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2018, the Government relaxed import control on all vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from 4 Japanese prefectures, namely Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma. What are the types and quantities of food products imported into Hong Kong from each of the 4 prefectures? How many samples of these food products are taken for testing and how many of them are detected with irregularities?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

With effect from noon on 24 July 2018, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department allows the import into and supply within Hong Kong vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma Prefectures of Japan on the conditions that the food products concerned are accompanied by a radiation certificate and an exporter certificate issued by the competent authority of Japan.

As at 31 March 2019, 23 consignments of 3 353 kilograms (kg) of the food products concerned were imported from the 4 prefectures, with breakdown by the types and quantities of food as follows –

Food type	Quantities (kg)				Total quantities (kg)
	Chiba	Tochigi	Gunma	Ibaraki	
Fruits	240	1 821	204	772	3 037
Vegetables	0	0	65	250	315
Dried milk	0	0	1	0	1
Total					3 353

CFS made use of the hand-held survey meters to check the radiation levels of each of those consignments and collected 38 food samples on a risk-based approach for laboratory testing. No radiation was detected.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)408

(Question Serial No. 6148)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the following information, with a breakdown by year:

- (1) the number of samples tested for heavy metals in food in the past 5 years, the border points from which the food products sampled were imported into Hong Kong, the types of food concerned, their places of origin, the test results and the exceedances found (if any);
- (2) the number of samples tested for bacteria in food in the past 5 years, the border points from which the food products sampled were imported into Hong Kong, the types of food concerned, their places of origin, the test results and the exceedances found (if any); and
- (3) the number of samples tested for radiation levels in food in the past 5 years, the border points from which the food products sampled were imported into Hong Kong, the types of food concerned, their places of origin, the test results and the exceedances found (if any).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department takes food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels along a risk-based approach under its Food Surveillance Programme (FSP) to safeguard food safety. CFS does not have breakdown on the numbers of locally produced and imported food samples, and the numbers of samples of food imported via various boundary control points.

- (1) The numbers of food samples tested for metallic contaminants under the FSP in the past 5 years by food group are as follows -

Food group	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Vegetables, fruits and products	1 620	1 980	1 620	1 690	3 040	9 950
Meat, poultry and products	30	40	50	150	120	390
Aquatic products	1 340	1 090	1 090	1 190	1 110	5 820
Cereals, grains and products	430	1 040	1 180	1 190	1 240	5 080
Others	830	830	770	780	780	3 990
Total	4 250	4 980	4 710	5 000	6 290	25 230

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

The testing results of all, except 73, of the aforementioned food samples were satisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples, 43 were aquatic products, 25 were vegetables, fruits and related products, and 5 were cereals, grains and related products.

(2) The numbers of food samples taken for microbiological testing under the FSP in the past 5 years by food group are as follows -

Food group	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Vegetables, fruits and products	310	1 100	1 060	1 200	530	4 200
Meat, poultry and products	1 380	1 460	1 390	1 590	1 460	7 280
Aquatic products	2 540	1 930	1 780	1 870	1 790	9 910
Milk, milk products and frozen confections	5 090	5 220	6 680	6 820	7 310	31 120
Cereals, grains and products	180	140	150	170	120	760
Others	5 410	4 200	4 470	5 500	5 880	25 460
Total	14 910	14 050	15 530	17 150	17 090	78 730

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.

The testing results of all, except 159, of the aforementioned food samples were satisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples, 93 were milk, milk products and frozen confections, 22 were aquatic products, 13 were vegetables, fruits and related products, 8 were meat, poultry and related products, and 23 were other food products.

(3) CFS conducts radiation checking on every consignment of food products imported from Japan making use of the hand-held survey meters and collects food samples on a risk-based approach for laboratory testing of radiation levels. Also, CFS collects food samples imported from other economies for radiation testing on a risk-based approach. The testing results of all samples taken over the past 5 years were satisfactory. Breakdown of the samples by food group is as follows -

Food group	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Vegetables, fruits and products	6 731	10 816	13 301	16 647	17 582	65 077
Meat, poultry and products	2 467	2 207	2 138	2 461	2 814	12 087
Aquatic products	11 614	12 318	12 342	13 450	15 759	65 483

Milk, milk products and frozen confections	858	1 033	1 035	1 091	938	4 955
Others (including drinks, cereal, grain and products and snacks)	42 680	51 340	50 468	55 708	61 495	261 691
Total	64 350	77 714	79 284	89 357	98 588	409 293

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)409

(Question Serial No. 6149)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to nutrition labelling of food items, the Centre for Food Safety is requested to list the following information by year:

- (1) Has the Government conducted food samplings for the checking of irregularities in nutrition labelling over the past 5 years? Please provide tabulated information on the sample size, places of origin of the food items, food types and the test results.
- (2) Please provide the number of samplings/inspections conducted, cases of irregularities detected, summons issued, prosecutions instituted and cases convicted in each of the past 5 years, with a breakdown by retail outlet inspected.
- (3) Please provide the details of the Department's work plan on food samplings and inspections in relation to nutrition labelling. What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has all along adopted a risk-based approach in checking the nutrition labels of prepackaged food products. The results from 2014 to 2018, with breakdown by nature of non-compliance and types of foods, are tabulated below -

	Number of cases					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Number of prepackaged food products checked	5 080	5 369	5 625	7 023	7 170	30 267
Number of non-compliant cases	96	29	54	34	62	275
(a) Breakdown of non-compliant cases by nature of non-compliance						
Nature of non-compliance	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
No nutrition label or incomplete labels on the energy content and seven core nutrients (i.e. “1 + 7” nutrition label)	19	17	18	8	19	81
Inappropriate nutrition label format	1	1	0	2	0	4
Inappropriate nutrient claim	2	0	0	1	2	5
Inappropriate language	3	0	2	4	6	15
Involving more than one type of the abovementioned irregularities	17	0	0	0	1	18
Discrepancy on declared nutrient value confirmed after chemical analysis	54	11	34	19	34	152
Total	96	29	54	34	62	275

(b) Breakdown of non-compliant cases by types of foods						
Types of Foods	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Bakery and cereal products	24	5	9	4	21	63
Candies and snacks	12	15	13	14	23	77
Drinks	15	1	7	2	2	27
Oils, sauces and condiments	18	2	12	10	9	51
Others	27	6	13	4	7	57
Total	96	29	54	34	62	275

(2) In 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, the CFS had checked 5 080, 5 369, 5 625, 7 023 and 7 170 nutrition labels of prepackaged food products respectively. A total of 275 non-complaint cases were detected. The CFS had initiated prosecution for 87 cases. 86 cases were convicted while 1 was withdrawn upon the advice of the Department of Justice (DoJ). Breakdown by year is as follows -

	Number of prosecution cases					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Number of summons	5	17	19	18	28	87
Number of convictions	5	16*	19	18	28	86*

* One case was withdrawn upon DoJ's advice.

(3) The CFS will continue to adopt a risk-based approach to take samples for nutrition label checking and chemical analysis. Non-compliant cases would be followed up and prosecution actions would be taken if there is sufficient evidence. The expenditure on enforcement of nutrition labelling requirements forms part of the expenditure on food surveillance and complaint handling, and cannot be separately identified. The estimated expenditure for food surveillance and complaint handling is \$78.2 million for 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)410

(Question Serial No. 6150)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to genetically modified (GM) food, please advise this Committee:

- (1) whether the Department plans to develop an official certification scheme for GM food. If yes, please provide the timetable, details of work and estimated expenditure; if no, the reason(s).
- (2) whether the Government had conducted sample testing or examination on GM food over the past 5 years. Please provide tabulated information on the sample size, the places of origin of the food items concerned, their food types and the test results.
- (3) whether the Government has statistics on the number of cases requiring medication or hospital admission due to discomfort after consumption of GM food over the past 5 year. If yes, please provide the figures and details.
- (4) details of the Department's work plan on GM food and the estimated expenditure in 2019-20.
- (5) whether the Department has made reference to overseas studies on GM food legislation. If yes, please provide the details.
- (6) whether the Department has conducted market surveys on GM food available for sale in Hong Kong. If yes, please provide the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

According to the World Health Organization, genetically modified (GM) food currently available on the international market has passed the safety assessments of the respective food safety regulatory authorities and is not likely to be harmful to human health.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission considers that governments of different economies may make their own decisions on whether or not to label GM food, and has formulated guidance on the risk assessment and labelling of GM food.

All food for sale in Hong Kong for human consumption (including GM food) must comply with the same set of statutory standards on safety, quality and labelling to ensure that it is fit for human consumption. Like any other food, GM food is covered in the Food Surveillance Programme of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. CFS takes food samples at the import, wholesale and retail levels and adopts a risk-based principle in determining the types of samples to be collected, the frequency and number of samples taken for testing, and types of laboratory analysis to be conducted. CFS releases the test results to the public through various channels. CFS does not have a breakdown on the number of food samples on GM food.

The Government encourages the trade to adopt GM food labelling on a voluntary basis. CFS has issued the “Guidelines on Voluntary Labelling of Genetically Modified Food” which set out the principles on labelling of GM food, and provide reference for the trade to give accurate and user-friendly information on the GM food labels. CFS will continue to promote the voluntary labelling regime to traders and provide the public with information on GM food, while keeping in view international development in GM technology and GM food labelling standards with a view to coming up with a proposal on a pre-market safety assessment scheme for GM food for public consultation in due course. CFS is making use of its existing manpower and resources to carry out work relating to GM food.

CFS has not received any report of food poisoning related to GM food in the last 5 years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)411****(Question Serial No. 6151)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

On monitoring online sale of food,

- (1) has the Government conducted sampling tests on food available for sale online over the past 5 years? Please provide tabulated information on the sample size, the ways of purchase, the places of origin of the food items concerned, their food types and the test results.
- (2) please provide the number of inspections conducted on food suppliers or in food factories in each of the past 5 years.
- (3) please provide the number of cases of irregularities detected, summons issued, prosecutions instituted and cases convicted over the past 5 years.
- (4) what are the details of the Department's work plan on "online sale of food"? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)Reply:

- (1) The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) takes samples of locally produced and imported food sold online for testing through purchasing directly from various websites and online platforms along a risk-based approach under its Food Surveillance Programme (FSP). The numbers of food samples purchased online from 2014 to 2018 are as follows -

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Number of food samples purchased online	0	1 502	4 053	4 091	4 164	13 810

The testing results of all, except 9, of the aforementioned food samples were satisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples, 4 were aquatic products, 4 were vegetable, fruit or cereal grain products and 1 was meat product. Those 9 unsatisfactory samples were detected to have metallic contamination, pesticide residues or preservatives, etc. exceeding the relevant food safety standards.

- (2) The numbers of inspections of food premises conducted by the Department in the past 5 years are as follows –

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of inspections	238 812	239 301	247 422	248 452	230 254

We do not have breakdown on the numbers of inspections with respect to food suppliers for online food sale specifically.

- (3) The numbers of prosecutions and convictions against unlicensed food businesses in connection with online food sale in the past 5 years are as follows –

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of prosecutions	9	24	26	36	68
Number of convictions	9	24	25	34	59 ^{Note}

^{Note} The figure reflects the position as at 31 March 2019. Hearing results of the remaining 9 out of the 68 prosecutions instituted in 2018 are pending.

- (4) The Department has been closely monitoring online food sale activities, including online traders that are not involved in food production and do not have physical premises. If the Department suspects that any online food sale activity involves unlicensed business, or has doubts on the source and safety of the food concerned, it will conduct investigations, including decoy operations to collect evidence and information, and take appropriate actions. CFS has increased the proportion of online food samples for microbiological testing under its FSP in 2019. We do not have breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in this area of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)412

(Question Serial No. 6152)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under the co-operation agreement between the Government and the Shenzhen Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau, frozen meat imported into Hong Kong from overseas are allowed to be stored temporarily in Qianhaiwan Bonded Port Area (QBPA) in Shenzhen. In this connection,

- (1) please set out the items of expenditure and amounts incurred for implementing the agreement in the past 3 years, and the estimated expenditure for 2019-2020.
- (2) please provide the details of the inspection of frozen meat by the Department at the control point, including the inspection rate and number of inspections conducted.
- (3) does the Department have any plans to monitor the implementation of the agreement at Qianhai and what measures will be taken for continued surveillance of the operation of cold stores in QBPA? If yes, what are the details? What testing method(s) will be used? Will surprise checks be conducted? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure?
- (4) please provide the requirements set by the Department for cold stores in QBPA. Are the requirements on temperature control, facilities standards, etc. identical with the existing statutory requirements for cold stores in Hong Kong? If not, what are the difference(s) and the reason(s)?
- (5) please provide tabulated information on the names of approved and unapproved cold stores in QBPA, their respective sizes and operators, as well as the reason(s) for rejection of approval.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

Under the co-operation agreement (the Agreement) between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and the Shenzhen authorities, frozen meat from overseas for import into Hong Kong may be stored temporarily in Qianhaiwan Bonded Port Area (QBPA) for subsequent delivery into Hong Kong in batches. The Shenzhen authorities are responsible for the inspection and quarantine of frozen meat entering the QBPA, including monitoring the facilities and temperatures of cold stores in which the frozen meat is kept, to ensure hygiene and food safety. The storage requirements in QBPA are consistent with Hong Kong's licensing requirements for cold stores, including requiring the frozen meat to be kept at a temperature of -18°C or below.

Lorries transporting the frozen meat from QBPA must enter Hong Kong via Man Kam To Control Point for inspection by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of FEHD. Every consignment of the frozen meat must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by an issuing entity of the place of origin recognised by the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene, and a transshipment certificate issued by the Shenzhen authorities certifying that the frozen meat was properly imported into QBPA and was not subject to spoilage or deterioration during the period of temporary storage in QBPA. The importer is required to obtain an import licence from FEHD. CFS collects samples of the frozen meat for testing under a risk-based approach. CFS does not have a breakdown on the manpower and expenditure for inspecting frozen meat imported into Hong Kong through QBPA.

At present, there is 1 registered cold store for temporary storage of frozen meat in QBPA under the Agreement. The cold store is operated by China Merchants International Cold Chain (Shenzhen) Co. Ltd. and has a floor area of about 1 750 square metres.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)413

(Question Serial No. 6153)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out the following in tabular form:

- (1) the total number of liquor licence applications received in the past 5 years; among them, the number of refused applications and the reasons for refusal;
- (2) the number of liquor licence renewal applications processed by the Liquor Licensing Board in the past 5 years in private and public sessions respectively; among them, the number of applications with liquor licence issued and the number of refused applications;
- (3) the number of applications received in the past 5 years from previous non-compliant restaurants or licensees that have sold liquor without a licence; among them, the number of liquor licences issued; and
- (4) the number of applications received in the past 5 years from restaurants or licensees that have connections with the members of the Liquor Licensing Board and warrant a declaration.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 76)

Reply:

- (1) The numbers of liquor licence applications received and refused in the past 5 years are provided as follows –

Calendar Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total number of liquor licence applications received (including new issue, renewal, transfer and amendment applications)	8 630	8 936	6 520	6 324	6 865
Total number of liquor licence applications refused (including new issue, renewal, transfer and amendment applications)	67	40	34	41	22

The decrease in the number of liquor licence applications after 2016 was due to the rolling out of the 2-year liquor licences since August 2015.

For the unsuccessful applications, the reasons of rejection are mainly that (a) the applicant is not a fit and proper person to hold the licence; (b) the premises to which the application relates are not suitable for selling or supplying intoxicating liquor, having regard to the location and structure of the premises, and the fire safety and hygienic conditions in the premises; and (c) the grant of licence would be contrary to public interest.

- (2) Statistics sought for renewal applications of liquor licence processed at closed door meetings and open hearings are provided as follows –

Calendar Year	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Closed door meeting ²	Open hearing ³	Closed door meeting ²	Open hearing ³	Closed door meeting ²	Open hearing ³	Closed door meeting ²	Open hearing ³	Closed door meeting ²	Open hearing ³
Total number of renewal applications of liquor licence processed	804	221	969	175	872	97	1 010	84	1 104	100
Total number of liquor licences renewed ¹	800 (4)	208 (0)	969 (0)	166 (0)	871 (1)	90 (0)	1 010 (0)	73 (0)	1 103 (1)	91 (0)
Total number of applications refused	0	13	0	9	0	7	0	11	0	9

¹ Figure in brackets indicates the number of applications abandoned by the applicants.

² When the Liquor Licensing Board (LLB) receives adverse comment(s) in relation to a liquor licence application from members of the public or from the relevant Government departments, but there is no objection to the application, such cases will be deliberated at a closed door meeting.

³ When LLB receives objection(s) in relation to a liquor licence application from members of the public or from the relevant Government departments, it will

conduct an open hearing to listen to representations from the applicant, the objector(s) and the relevant Government departments.

(3) The information is provided as follows –

Calendar Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total number of liquor licence applications received from restaurants or licensees with records of selling liquor without a licence	6 (6)	4 (3)	2 (1)	5 (5)	4 (3)

Note: Figure in brackets indicates the number of liquor licences issued.

(4) The information is provided as follows –

Calendar Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total number of declarations of interest made by LLB members at the meeting	29	17	9	6	8

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)414****(Question Serial No. 6305)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form the number of "food factories" which are issued with a "food factory licence" and located in a shopping mall, with a breakdown by type of business.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 77)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

Business Types	Number of Food Factories
Take away fast food shops	3 089
Manufacture of bakery products	856
Processing of frozen/chilled/fresh commodities	402
Manufacture of cooked food for wholesale	265
Manufacture of lunch/meal boxes	207
Others*	3 645
Total	8 464

* Figures denote the number of food factories manufacturing or processing other types of food items such as bean curds, Chinese puddings, sauces, flour products, prepackaged drinks, ice, as well as distilled and mineral water, etc.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the number of licensed food factories broken down by building type.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)415

(Question Serial No. 6307)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please provide the following information in the past 5 years in tabular form:

- (1) the number of burials;
- (2) the number of applications for niches in public columbaria and the number of approved cases of interment of cremains;
- (3) the number of applications for scattering cremains at sea, the number of applications approved, and the number of applications rejected and the reason(s) for rejection;
- (4) the number of applications for scattering cremains in the Gardens of Remembrance, the number of applications approved, the number of applications rejected and the reason(s) for rejection, and the number of cases of scattering cremains in each of the 12 Gardens of Remembrance; and
- (5) the costs of providing the services of scattering cremains at sea and scattering cremains in the Gardens of Remembrance for each deceased person to be borne by the Government.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 80)

Reply:

(1) & (2) The information sought is provided as follows -

Calendar Year	No. of Burials	Public Niches			
		New Niches*		Re-allocated Niches*	
		No. of applications	No. of niches allocated	No. of applications	No. of niches re-allocated
2014	3 477	16 321	12 053	5 554	193
2015	3 355	11 627	14 573	7 164	394
2016	3 253		5 239 [#]	6 923	271
2017	2 962			7 931	346
2018	3 136			8 410	448

The last public niches allocation exercise at Kiu Tau Road Columbarium was completed in March 2016. Thereafter, there was no public niches allocation exercise launched by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) and no invitation to the public for niche application was made.

* The year in which new niches and re-allocated niches are allocated may not be the same as that in which the applications are made.

(3) & (4) Information on the number of applications received and approved by the Department for scattering of cremains at sea and in Gardens of Remembrance in the past 5 years is provided as follows -

Calendar Year	Scattering of cremains			
	At sea		In Gardens of Remembrance	
	No. of applications received	No. of approved cases*	No. of applications received	No. of approved cases*
2014	856	856	2 697	2 697
2015	877	877	3 196	3 196
2016	900	900	4 004	4 004
2017	966	966	4 966	4 966
2018	972	972	5 352	5 352

* All applications for scattering of cremains at sea and in Gardens of Remembrance were accepted and there was no rejected case in the past 5 years.

Breakdown on the number of cases on the scattering of cremains in respective Gardens of Remembrance managed by the Department is provided as follows -

Name of Garden of Remembrance	No. of cases on scattering of cremains in respective year				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Cape Collinson (New)	436	510	620	884	924
Cape Collinson (Old)	4	1	3	5	24
Diamond Hill (New)	1 442	1 783	2 162	2 560	2 795
Diamond Hill (Old)	66	97	90	88	5
Kwai Chung (Old)	340	326	464	538	555
Fu Shan	128	127	172	237	272
Wo Hop Shek Phase V	195	285	453	611	740
Wo Hop Shek Phase III	83	66	38	37	24
Cheung Chau	2	1	1	5	12
Peng Chau	1	0	1	1	1
Lamma	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2 697	3 196	4 004	4 966	5 352

- (5) The expenditure incurred by the Department in providing cemeteries and crematoria services, including the service for scattering of cremains at sea and in Gardens of Remembrance, in 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was \$341.4 million, \$327.4 million, \$332.5 million, \$345.6 million and \$356.9 million (revised estimate) respectively. There is no breakdown by type of services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)416

(Question Serial No. 6308)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It was mentioned in the Estimates last year that “the food waste collected mainly from selected public markets and cooked food centres will be delivered to the new Organic Waste Treatment Facility for treatment”. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

- (1) Please provide the expenditure involved and the breakdown of the expenditure, the number and names of the selected markets and cooked food centres and the selection criteria.
- (2) According to the reply last year, a pilot scheme would be launched in the second half of 2018. Please provide the latest details of the pilot scheme, including the implementation date, collection details, the estimated amount of food waste to be collected and actual amount of food waste collected.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 81)

Reply:

The pilot scheme on collection and delivery of food waste from government premises to the Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1 (O ▪ PARK1) contributes to the waste management policy of the Environment Bureau.

To encourage the commercial and industrial sectors to recycle food waste properly and support waste-to-energy facilities, the Government has implemented a 2-year pilot project to separate food waste at source from 40 public markets and cooked food venues managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) among other participating venues for delivery to the O ▪ PARK1 for recycling. The pilot project has been launched since 1 July 2018.

Under the pilot project, FEHD engages service contractors to collect source-separated food waste generated from the selected public markets and cooked food venues. Stall operators

will be encouraged to donate recyclable food waste on a voluntary basis and FEHD will arrange a contractor to deliver the food waste to the O • PARK1.

The pilot project was designed to identify and determine key operational and logistics issues in collecting and transporting food waste to the O • PARK1. To enhance the quality of the food waste to be collected and encourage the stall operators to recycle and handle food waste properly, the Environmental Protection Department has arranged a non-government organisation to provide practical guidance to the stall operators on how to separate food waste at source, conduct talks to explain the arrangement and visit individual stall operators to give advice at the beginning and during the implementation of the pilot project.

FEHD's markets and cooked food venues covered in the pilot project are selected with regard to their proximity to the O • PARK1, accessibility of land transport, the amount of food waste generated, and site availability in support of separation of food waste at source. A list of the participating markets and cooked food venues is at Annex.

The amount of food waste collected from FEHD's markets and cooked food venues is about 200 to 240 tonnes per month. The expenditure involved in 2018-19 is about \$16 million.

- End -

Selected public markets and associated cooked food centres

District	Name of Public Markets/Cooked Food Centres
Central / Western	Sheung Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Smithfield Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Shek Tong Tsui Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Sai Ying Pun Market
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Yue Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Java Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Chai Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Quarry Bay Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Electric Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Aldrich Bay Market and Cooked Food Centre
Southern	Aberdeen Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Yue Kwong Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Tin Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Ap Lei Chau Market and Cooked Food Centre
Wan Chai	Causeway Bay Market
	Wan Chai Market
	Bowrington Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Lockhart Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Wong Nai Chung Market and Cooked Food Centre
Kowloon City	Kowloon City Market and Cooked Food Centre
	To Kwa Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Hung Hom Market and Cooked Food Centre
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Tai Kok Tsui Market and Cooked Food Centre
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Pei Ho Street Market and Cooked Food Centre

District	Name of Public Markets/Cooked Food Centres
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Ngau Chi Wan Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Choi Hung Road Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Sheung Fung Street Market
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market and Cooked Food Centre
	Yau Ma Tei Market
	Haiphong Road Temporary Market cum Haiphong Road Temporary Cooked Food Hawker Bazaar
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market
	Wing Fong Street Market
	Tsing Yi Market
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Market
	Yeung UK Road Market
	Heung Che Street Market and Cooked Food Centre

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)417

(Question Serial No. 6310)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to African Swine Fever (ASF), please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) Since the outbreak of ASF, how many food samples have been taken for ASF virus testing? Please provide tabulated information by food types on the number of food samples taken, the places of origin of the food products sampled, the number of unsatisfactory samples detected, the quantity of food products recalled and the number of days required for conducting tests on food samples.
- (2) Please list the number of cases involving seizure of smuggled pork by the Department at various border control points since the outbreak of ASF. Has manpower been stepped up to combat pork smuggling at border control points? Please advise on the departments involved and the manpower situation.
- (3) What are the Department's corresponding actions for the ASF epidemic? Please advise on the department(s) and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 83)

Reply:

- (1) African Swine Fever (ASF) is not a zoonotic disease and there are no food safety concerns. As at 28 February 2019, 54 samples of pig organs and tissues were collected in slaughterhouses for ASF testing for prevention of possible spread of ASF, results of which were all negative.
- (2) From August 2018 to February 2019, the Customs and Excise Department had referred 131 cases of suspected illegal import of pork to the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) at border control points and more than 500 kg of pork had been seized for disposal. CFS has ensured that proper manpower was deployed at border control points to safeguard food safety at import level. As at February 2019, there are 99 staff posts at various border control points under the Food Import and Export Section of the CFS.

(3) The CFS has enhanced the publicity programme on ASF through various channels, including broadcasting messages at radio, posters displayed at all border checkpoints, MTR trains and escalators, and advertisements in newspaper and internet, posts on social media such as Facebook. At the border level, food pigs are subject to import inspection upon arrival. Pig consignment must accompany a valid animal health certificate issued by the Mainland authority, attesting that the animals are clinically healthy and originated from a registered farm. In case there are pigs showing clinical signs suggestive of ASF, the consignment of interest would be detained for further investigation. Besides, transportation trucks are disinfected before admission to the animal inspection station. All pigs admitted into the licensed slaughterhouse must pass ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection before supplying the market. CFS collects samples in the slaughterhouse for ASF testing as and when required.

The revised estimate of expenditure on live food animal inspections and quarantine detector dog services at boundary control points and in slaughterhouses in 2018-19 is \$61.6 million, involving 142 staff posts. The revised estimate of expenditure on managing slaughterhouses and providing meat inspection services in 2018-19 is \$71.7 million, involving 66 staff posts. The cost for handling ASF cannot be separately identified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)418

(Question Serial No. 6316)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In connection with the Department's efforts to "apply new technology to enhance environmental hygiene services", please advise on the expenditure, the items involved and the details over the past 5 years. Please set out relevant information, including the descriptions, quantities and prices of the items of new technology procured. What is the estimated expenditure for 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 49)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been proactively applying technologies to enhance environmental hygiene services through the use of machines and automation. A summary of the technologies being used or piloted is provided at Annex.

The total expenditure in 2017-18 and 2018-19 was about \$10 million and the estimated expenditure in 2019-20 is about \$100 million.

- End -

Application of Technologies in Enhancing Environmental Hygiene

(a) Internet Protocol (IP) Cameras

The Department plans to extend the IP Camera scheme for 2 years commencing from August 2019 tentatively and will progressively increase to over 300 locations upon consultation with relevant stakeholders and District Councils (DCs).

(b) Solar-powered aluminium refuse collection points (RCPs)

The Department is considering the introduction of solar-powered aluminium RCPs in rural areas. A trial is expected to be carried out in April 2019.

(c) 360 Degrees Cameras

In the light of the experience of a pilot scheme, the Department will consult the relevant DCs on the installation of 360 degrees cameras at 15 coastal sites after completion of privacy impact assessment.

(d) Mini-mechanical sweepers

Mini-mechanical sweepers have been used in street cleansing in Tai Po and Yuen Long districts. The Department will identify other suitable places for using the sweepers.

(e) Pressure washer surface cleaners and leaf blowers

Since July 2018, deployment of the above equipment for street cleansing have been included in all relevant service contracts upon renewal.

(f) Solar-powered compacting refuse bins (compacting bins)

The Department has conducted a trial use of compacting bins for household waste collection since February 2018. An improved design will be put on trial from April 2019.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)419

(Question Serial No. 6317)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) Please set out in tabular form the details and expenditure of the “anti-mosquito” work in the past 5 years. How effective was the work in each year? What is the estimated expenditure in 2019-20?
- (2) Please set out in tabular form the details and expenditure of the “anti-rodent” work in the past 5 years. How effective was the work in each year? What is the estimated expenditure in 2019-20?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) carries out a series of operations focusing on removal of accumulation of water and mosquito prevention and control at mosquito breeding places and potential breeding places over the territory. Emphasis is placed on locations in close proximity to residential areas, schools, construction sites, hospitals, illegal cultivation sites, waterfront public and private cargo working areas, cross boundary check points, typhoon shelters and cross boundary ferry terminals. Inter-departmental Anti-mosquito Campaign is launched in 3 phases each year. Anti-mosquito measures are strengthened while educational and publicity work are carried out with emphasis on eliminating mosquito breeding places. After the Anti-mosquito Campaign, 2 phases of territory-wide Thematic Mosquito Prevention and Control Special Operation would be arranged from 25 March 2019 to 5 April 2019 and from 1 July 2019 to 12 July 2019 to sustain the momentum of the mosquito control work at strategic areas.

The Department adopts multi-pronged strategies and the concept of rodent disinfection at designated target areas. The Department carries out rodent prevention and control work through elimination of the 3 basic survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, including improving environmental hygiene, stepping up rodent disinfection and enforcement actions. Emphasis is placed on locations at markets, municipal services buildings, hawker bazaars, typhoon shelters, lanes adjacent to food premises and other

problematic spots as well as their surroundings. On top of routine anti-rodent work, the Department also takes the lead in organising annual territory-wide interdepartmental Anti-rodent Campaign to strengthen rodent prevention and control at target areas and remind the public of the importance of rodent prevention and control. The first phase of anti-rodent campaign was launched in January 2019 and the second phase would be launched in July 2019. To intensify district rodent prevention and control work, the Department will also launch 2 two-month anti-rodent operations at designated target areas in all districts in May and November 2019, and adopts multi-pronged strategies to combat the rodent problem, including elimination of food sources and hiding places of rodents, as well as blocking their passages, so as to work for a clean and hygienic community. The Department would also step up public education and publicity during the operations and arrange health talks for building management of private buildings, persons-in-charge of food premises, and market and hawker stall operators to provide information and technical advice on rodent prevention and control.

In addition, the Department provides technical advice to other government departments on pest control matters. The Department carries out the vector surveillance programmes to monitor the distribution and seasonal variation of vector mosquitoes and rodents including vector surveillance of dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis and malaria as well as rodent infestation survey, rat-flea survey and ad hoc surveys. In response to vector-borne diseases, the Department also conducts vector surveys in surrounding areas of all locations visited by the patients.

The expenditure on mosquito and rodent prevention and control work for the past 5 years and 2019-20 is provided below -

	Financial year					
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (Revised Estimate)	2019-20 (Estimate)
Expenditure in mosquito prevention and control work (\$ million)	243.1	253.8	260.4	275.9	309.6	332.4
Expenditure in rodent prevention and control work (\$ million)	156.2	160.9	164.8	172.6	198.3	213.5

Information on mosquito and rodent control work over the past 5 years is provided below -

Mosquito control work carried out in the past 5 years					
Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of inspections	769 376	845 514	898 169	917 842	909 247

Mosquito control work carried out in the past 5 years					
Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of mosquito breeding places eliminated	49 425	55 353	57 103	57 701	63 635
Summons taken against mosquito breeding	59	61	45	292	206
Number of mosquito surveys conducted	4 182	4 369	5 322	5 284	6 077

Rodent control work carried out in the past 5 years					
Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of rodent trappings	52 601	54 533	53 477	54 438	60 432
Number of rodents trapped	11 945	12 942	13 192	14 704	16 504
Number of poison treatments of rodent infestation in building blocks	46 093	52 397	57 209	70 121	93 815
Number of rodents poisoned	19 892	22 895	23 977	26 334	27 874
Number of rodent surveys conducted	1 579	1 784	1 838	1 969	2 033

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)420

(Question Serial No. 6318)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In the past 5 years, has the Department put in place any tools, measures or work arrangements to ensure the safety of outsourced cleansing workers at work and prevent them from sustaining injuries at work or suffering from musculoskeletal disorders? If yes, what are the expenditures involved? Please also provide the number of outsourced cleansing workers who were injured in the course of work or injured due to musculoskeletal disorders arising from work in the past 5 years. Does the Department have a work plan or a budget for preventing outsourced workers from sustaining injuries in the course of work or suffering from occupational diseases arising from work and improving their working environment? If yes, what are the items and the expenditure involved? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

The contracts signed between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) and its service contractors stipulate that contractor personnel shall have the necessary training which includes training in occupational safety and health to provide the services, and the contractors should ensure that all their employees wear tidy and clean uniforms or special protective clothing which the Department may consider necessary or appropriate while they are providing the services. This includes the replacement of face mask at least once at the beginning of a work shift or immediately after the mask is damaged. The contractors are obliged to provide and replace uniforms and special protective clothing for their staff. The Department adds a clause to newly awarded contracts to require the contractors to submit a uniform supply and allocation plan within 2 weeks after the commencement of contracts for approval. The contractors are also required to keep a record of allocation of such items to each employee with his/her acknowledgement of receipt, and produce the record at the Department's request for inspection.

In addition, it is also part of the contractual requirements that contractors shall comply with all legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts. Specifically, the Occupational Safety and Health Regulation (Cap. 509A) (the Regulation) provides that employers have a duty to ensure, as far as practicable, their employees' safety and health at work, which includes, inter alia, providing sufficient drinking water and toilets for employees. If the Department finds that any contractor fails to comply with the requirements for providing its employees with sufficient drinking water, the Department will issue a notice of blatant default to the contractor without prior warning. The Department will also refer the case to the Labour Department for investigation on any contravention under the Regulation.

The number of reported cases received by the Department on injury at work of cleansing workers employed under cleansing service contracts in the past 5 years is given as follows -

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to 28 February 2019)
No. of reported cases on injury at work*	89	94	65	68	62

* No breakdown on cause of injury is available.

The Department does not have the breakdown of the expenditure on occupational safety.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)421

(Question Serial No. 6324)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please set out in tabular form (1) the number of aqua privies in the territory, (2) their locations, (3) the number of toilet compartments, (4) the usage rate, (5) the frequency and time interval of desludging service, (6) any plan to convert aqua privies into flushing toilets (if yes, the target year and month in which the conversion will take place), and (7) the estimated expenditure, with a breakdown of 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) provides 52 aqua privies. The frequency of desludging for these facilities depends mainly on the utilisation rate and the ground situations. The information about the locations of aqua privies, number of water closets, utilisation rate, and the plan for conversion into flushing toilets is set out at Annex.

- End -

**Information of Aqua Privies
(as at March 2019)**

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of the conversion works (\$ million)
Islands	Ko Long Village	Not applicable (closed for demolition)		To be demolished	Not applicable	Not applicable
Islands	Po Toi	5	moderate	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
		(under renovation)				
Islands	San Wai	Not applicable (closed for demolition)		To be demolished	Not applicable	Not applicable
Islands	Upper Tong Fuk	6	Low	To be demolished	Not applicable	Not applicable
Islands	Ha Ling Pei	4	Low	Yes	Q1 2020	6.000
Islands	Shek Lau Po	Not available (under conversion works)		Yes	Q3 2019	8.987
Islands	Sha Lo Wan Tsuen	Not available (under conversion works)		Yes	Q3 2019	6.410
Islands	Nam Chung	5	Moderate	Yes	Q1 2020	5.000
Islands	Lower Keung San	5	Low	To be demolished	Not applicable	Not applicable
Islands	Fan Lau	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Kwai Tsing	Kau Wah Keng Village	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of the conversion works (\$ million)
Tsuen Wan	Sham Tseng San Tsuen	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Heung Sze Wui Road	8	Low	Yes (to be reprovisioned under private development project)	The reprovisioned public toilet will not be under the management by the Department	
Tsuen Wan	Ma Wan Fisherman Village	6	Low	Yes (to be reprovisioned under private development project)	The reprovisioned public toilet will not be under the management by the Department	
Tsuen Wan	Yam O Luk Keng	2	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Tuen Mun	Fu Tei Sheung Tsuen	3	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Tuen Mun	Siu Sau Tsuen near Wan Lee Store	6	Low	Yes (to be reprovisioned under private development project)	No information	No information
Tuen Mun	Wong Uk Tsuen, Tai Lam	4	Low	Yes (to be reprovisioned under private development project)	No information	No information
Yuen Long	Shui Chiu San Tsuen (1)	5	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Cheung Ngau Shan	6	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Sheung Yau Tin Tsuen	6	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of the conversion works (\$ million)
Yuen Long	Ha Yau Tin Tsuen	6	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Ta Shek Wu	3	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Lin Fa Tei East	6	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Lin Fa Tei West	5	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Ho Pui Tsuen (2)	6	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Hang Tau Tsuen	11	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Sha Kong Wai	10	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Kau Lei Uk Tsuen	3	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Fung Kong Tsuen	6	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Ha San Wai	6	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Ngau Tam Mei West	6	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Yuen Long	Shui Tau Tsuen	2	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
North	Hang Tau (Tai Po)	3	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
North	Tsiu Keung Market	5	Low	Yes	To be confirmed	7.670

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of the conversion works (\$ million)
North	Ap Chau (2)	Not applicable (closed for demolition)		To be demolished	Not applicable	Not applicable
North	Tai Long	3	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
North	Kau Liu	5	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
North	Siu Hang Tsuen	Not applicable (Under Renovation)		Yes	To be confirmed	4.670
Tai Po	Sha Lo Tung Village	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Wai Ha Village	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Tin Liu Ha Village	4	Low	Yes	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Pak Ngau Shek Ha Tsuen	5	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau Site (1)	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Tung Ping Chau Site (3)	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Tai Po	Tseng Tau Pier	3	Moderate	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Sai Kung	Pak Shek Wo Sun Tsuen	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Sai Kung	Lung Ha Wan	3	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available

District	Location	Number of water closets	Utilisation rate	Whether it will be converted to a flushing toilet	Anticipated completion date	Estimated cost of the conversion works (\$ million)
Sai Kung	Pik Shui Sun Tsuen (2)	6	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Sai Kung	Pik Shui Sun Tsuen (3)	4	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available
Sai Kung	Luk Mei Tsuen Road	6	Low	Yes	Q2 2020	4.160
Sai Kung	Hap Mun Bay	3	Low	Under feasibility study	Not available	Not available

Low usage rate – a daily average of less than 100 visitors

Moderate usage rate – a daily average between 100 and 299 visitors

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)422

(Question Serial No. 6325)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the proposal under the heading "A Liveable City" in the Budget Speech that a total expenditure of \$600 million be allocated for refurbishing 240 public toilets by phases,

- (1) please provide the work plan, including the number of phases, and the expected commencement date of the first phase with its objectives, number of public toilets to be refurbished, duration and estimated expenditure.
- (2) please set out the assessment criteria for the quality of public toilets, the requirement for refurbishment and the cleanliness, including odour and dryness.
- (3) does the Department have any statistics on the average lifespan and times of use of a public toilet?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (1)-(2) About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We plan to commence refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.

New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red

sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

The Department has stepped up inspection and monitoring of contractors' performances of the public toilets with relatively high utilisation rates or located at tourist spots with focus on the following 4 performance indicators -

- (a) dry floor;
- (b) floor, wall and facilities free from stains and dirt;
- (c) no foul smell; and
- (d) proper performance of toilet facilities.

(3) We do not keep the information sought.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)423****(Question Serial No. 6492)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (-) Not specifiedControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise on the number and details of the Director's visits to District Councils and participation in district events in the past 2 years.

District	District Council meetings	District visits	Events organised by residents	Events organised by the Government
Central and Western	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Eastern	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Southern	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Wan Chai	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kowloon City	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kwun Tong	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sham Shui Po	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Yau Tsim Mong	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:

Wong Tai Sin	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Islands	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Kwai Tsing	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
North	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sai Kung	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Sha Tin	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tai Po	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tsuen Wan	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Tuen Mun	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:
Yuen Long	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:	Date: Venue: Details:

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 472)

Reply:

To maintain regular exchanges and close cooperation with District Councils (DCs), the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene conducts visits to each of the 18 DCs to listen personally to the views of DC members. In 2017 and 2018, she visited or attended meetings of 10 DCs, including Sha Tin DC, Tai Po DC, Yau Tsim Mong DC, Wan Chai DC, Islands DC, Sham Shui Po DC, Southern DC, Tsuen Wan DC, Kwai Tsing DC and Kowloon City DC.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)424

(Question Serial No. 4433)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding environmental hygiene,

- (i) please set out in tabular form the number of complaints against dripping air-conditioners, the average time required for handling a complaint and the expenditure involved in each of the District Council districts in the past 3 years. Please advise whether the estimated expenditure has been increased for handling complaints against dripping air-conditioners in the 2018-19 financial year, if yes, the details; and
- (ii) please set out in tabular form the top 20 locations of illegal dumping of refuse in New Territories West (including the districts of Tsuen Wan, Kwai Tsing, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Islands) over the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and District Council district as follows:

Top 20 locations of illegal dumping of refuse in each District Council district (as at March 2019)

District Council district	Location

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)

Reply:

- (i) The number of complaints against dripping from air-conditioners received in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by district, is provided as follows -

District	No. of complaints		
	2016	2017	2018
Central and Western	1 261	1 441	1 555
Wan Chai	1 602	1 862	1 934
Eastern	2 873	3 037	3 020
Southern	1 028	1 021	956
Islands	216	163	135
Yau Tsim	1 488	1 330	1 387
Mong Kok	1 267	1 353	1 353
Sham Shui Po	1 682	1 741	1 769
Kowloon City	1 857	1 874	1 682
Wong Tai Sin	731	764	843
Kwun Tong	2 000	2 141	1 854
Kwai Tsing	756	736	753
Tsuen Wan	1 449	1 540	1 341
Tuen Mun	1 590	1 753	1 379
Yuen Long	1 333	1 309	1 343
North	623	681	575
Tai Po	539	532	650
Sha Tin	1 848	2 017	2 014
Sai Kung	782	760	632
Total	24 925	26 055	25 175

At present, about 328 Health Inspectors in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) are deployed to 19 district environmental hygiene offices across the territory to handle environmental hygiene issues, including complaints against dripping from air-conditioners. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in handling such complaints, nor the average time required for handling a complaint. As the nuisances caused by dripping air-conditioners tend to cluster in the summer months, there is usually a substantial increase in the workload of the Department during the same period. To reduce the work pressure of frontline officers, the Department has recruited a special team of contract staff in the summer since 2017 to enhance education and enforcement actions, focusing on buildings located in blackspots where the problem of dripping air-conditioners persists. The team size increased from 30 in 2017 to 40 in 2018. The salary costs for the special team in 2017-18 and 2018-19 were \$5.8 million and \$8 million respectively.

- (ii) The Department does not compile the information on a regional basis. Instead, a list of the top 5 locations in Tsuen Wan, Kwai Tsing, Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Islands districts, as at March 2019, to which the Department devotes more efforts and resources in tackling the problem of illegal dumping of refuse, is set out at Annex.

- End -

**Top 5 Locations of Illegal Dumping of Refuse by District
(as at March 2019)**

District	Location
Tsuen Wan	Outside Luen Yan Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Wo Yi Hop Village Refuse Collection Point
	Yi Pei Square
	Hau Tei Square
	Tai Pei Square
Kwai Tsing	Outside Tai Chuen Ping Street Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tam Kon Shan Road Refuse Collection Point
	Lam Tin Street
	Kwong Fai Circuit
	Shek Man Path
Tuen Mun	Outside Tsing Yeung Circuit Refuse Collection Point
	Outside San Hing Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Ho Fat Lane
	Tat Fuk Road near lamppost nos. BD2940 and BD2938
	Tin Tei Yan Road (near Tin Tei Yan Road Public Toilet)
Yuen Long	Outside Ka Lung Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tai Tao Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Shan Pui Road Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Long Ha Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
	Outside Tung Tai Wai San Tsuen Refuse Collection Point
Islands	Outside Silver View Centre, Ngan Kwong Wan Road, Mui Wo
	Outside Mui Wo Pier Car Park, Mui Wo
	Tung Chung Road North near Lamppost FB8749 and FB8750
	Bin Site next to 44 Wang Long, Yung Shue Wan, Lamma Island
	Bin Site next to Lamppost BC0507, Chi Ma Wan Road, South Lantau

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)425

(Question Serial No. 3397)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of food complaints handled has remained high. In this connection, please advise whether sufficient resources, including manpower, have been earmarked to meet the demand in 2019-20. If yes, please provide details including the manpower and resources required; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

Food complaints are handled by the 300 or so Health Inspectors of the relevant district environmental hygiene offices (DEHOs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) first, and then followed up by the Food Complaint Unit of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Department for detailed investigations upon referral by DEHOs. We do not have breakdown on the manpower and expenditure on handling food complaints in DEHOs. The Food Complaint Unit of CFS has an estimated establishment of 25 staff members in 2019-20, representing an increase of 2 staff as compared to 2018-19. The estimated expenditure of this Unit in 2019-20 is about \$14.5 million. CFS will keep in view its workload and resource requirements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)426

(Question Serial No. 3398)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of food samples collected for testing has remained high. In this connection, please advise whether sufficient resources, including manpower, have been earmarked to meet the demand in 2019-20. If yes, please provide details including the manpower and resources required; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

The Food Import and Export Section and the Food Surveillance and Complaint Section of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are responsible for carrying out food surveillance work, including collection of food samples for testing at the import, wholesale and retail levels, among other duties. The 2 Sections have an estimated establishment of 405 staff members in 2019-20, representing an increase of 6 staff as compared to 2018-19. The estimated expenditure of the 2 Sections in 2019-20 is about \$302.5 million. CFS will keep in view its workload and resource requirements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)427

(Question Serial No. 3399)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please give the reason(s) for the continuous increase in the number of mosquito breeding places eliminated, as well as the details and effectiveness of the relevant work in 2018. Please also advise whether sufficient resources have been earmarked with relevant measures drawn up, including the deployment of manpower and allocation of resources, to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases; if yes, please give details of the work, the manpower and the estimated expenditure in this respect; if no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

In 2017 and 2018, the number of mosquito breeding places eliminated was 57 701 and 63 635 respectively. The increase in 2018 was attributable to the enhanced mosquito prevention and control measures taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in public places in response to the local cases of dengue fever in that year. The Department has adopted an integrated approach in the prevention and control of pest. Under this approach, the Department implements a dengue vector surveillance programme to monitor the distribution of *Aedes albopictus* at selected areas, evaluates the effectiveness of mosquito prevention and control work carried out by various parties, and provides surveillance information to the public and for making timely adjustments to its mosquito control strategies and measures.

The Department also organises annual anti-mosquito campaigns and thematic mosquito prevention and control special operations on a territory-wide basis to enhance public awareness on the potential risks of mosquito-borne diseases, encourage community participation and promote coordination among government departments in anti-mosquito work. In addition to about 700 departmental staff deployed to perform pest control work (including mosquito control), the Department engages services contractors through roving teams to provide pest control services in the territory. As regards the winter season from November 2018 to February 2019, the Department increased the number of roving teams by 40 in order to maintain the same number of teams as in the wet season. The number of

roving teams this winter was maintained at about 310 (with a workforce of about 1 800) to strengthen mosquito prevention and control. Additional funding was provided to the Department for sustaining its anti-mosquito work throughout the winters of 2016, 2017 and 2018. The Department would keep up the work on mosquito prevention and control in 2019-20 with an estimated expenditure of \$332.4 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)428

(Question Serial No. 3400)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please give the reason(s) for the rising trend of the number of pest control surveys conducted, as well as the details and effectiveness of the relevant work in 2018. As it is estimated that the number will continue to increase in 2019-20, please also advise whether sufficient resources have been earmarked with relevant measures drawn up, including the deployment of manpower and allocation of resources; if yes, please give details of the work, manpower and estimated expenditure in this respect; if no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been carrying out an increasing number of pest control surveys amid its efforts to strengthen vector surveillance to safeguard public health. In 2017 and 2018, there were 9 244 and 10 116 such surveys respectively. The increase was mainly attributed to (a) the strengthening of dengue vector surveillance in the community, whereby the number of survey locations has increased from 52 to 57 and the frequency of the surveillance from 1 week per month to 2 weeks per month since July 2018; and (b) the strengthening of dengue vector surveillance in ports, whereby the frequency of the surveillance has increased from 2 weeks per month to a weekly basis since July 2018. A total of 14 staff have been deployed for the implementation of the strengthened measures.

In 2019-20, the dengue vector surveillance programme will be further enhanced. The number of locations covered by the surveys will increase from 57 to 61. Rodent infestation surveys will also be enhanced by raising the number of survey locations from 41 to 50. Besides, dengue vector surveillance for port areas and rodent infestation survey have been extended to the 2 new ports (viz. the Express Rail Link Terminus and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge crossing facilities) since late 2018, and will be further extended to the Liantang/Heung Yuen Wai Control Point upon its operation expected in late 2019. Moreover, surveys in response to vector-borne diseases will be strengthened by shortening the time required for investigation. A total of 9 additional staff will be deployed for

implementing the strengthened measures. The revised estimated expenditure in 2018-19 and the estimated expenditure in 2019-20 in this respect is \$43.0 million and \$49.7 million respectively.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)429

(Question Serial No. 3401)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated that the Department will continue to review and update local food safety standards, guidelines and regulatory arrangements, including but not limited to those concerning harmful substances (including mycotoxins) and trans fats in foods. Please advise on the progress of the work in 2018, as well as the specific work plan and timetables, and the estimated manpower and resources required in 2019.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department have been closely monitoring the international developments and measures relating to safeguarding food safety, including making reference to the food safety standards of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other economies, as well as taking into account the local dietary practice and risk assessment results, to timely update the local food safety standards and regulatory arrangements on the basis of scientific evidence. Upon completion of the legislative amendments to the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations last year, CFS has been working on proposals to update the regulatory regime of harmful substances in food, including mycotoxins and trans fat. FHB and CFS plan to conduct public consultation on the proposals in 2019-20.

As updating food safety standards and regulatory arrangements is part and parcel of the work of CFS, we do not have breakdown on the manpower and resources used specifically in this area of work.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)430

(Question Serial No. 3402)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated that the Department will continue to re-engineer workflow, overhaul and develop new information technology systems for the Centre for Food Safety for more effective management of data in food import and food safety incidents. Please advise on the progress of the work in 2018, as well as the specific work plan and timetable, and the estimated manpower and resources required in 2019.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department put in place a dedicated team in end 2017 to look closely at its operational workflow, revamp its information technology (IT) systems for higher efficiency, and enhance its mode of operation through IT to support the work of its frontline staff and reinforce its capability in food import control, surveillance, incident management, risk assessment and traceability. Phased improvements to the IT systems of CFS will start from end 2019. Specifically, a Food Trader Portal will be set up to provide a platform for electronic communication between CFS and food traders. The existing Food Import Control System will be replaced by a new IT system which will support the streamlined workflow and procedures on import control and the issuance of food export certification. There will be a newly developed Food Incident Management System to strengthen the management of food safety incidents. The above systems will interface with each other to provide a well-connected network of information in support of risk profiling and risk-based inspection to enhance food safety control.

The dedicated team in charge of the above work will have 74 staff at an estimated staffing expenditure of about \$58 million in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)431

(Question Serial No. 3403)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The number of inspections to food premises has remained high. In this connection, please advise whether sufficient resources, including manpower, have been earmarked to meet the demand in 2019-20. If yes, please provide details including the manpower and resources required; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 76)

Reply:

At present, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) deploys 328 health inspectors to 19 district environmental hygiene offices across the territory to handle various environmental hygiene issues including, inter alia, the inspection and regulatory control of licensed food premises. The Department will keep under review the service requirements and suitably deploy manpower and resources to meet relevant operational needs. Where the need arises, the Department will seek additional resources in accordance with the established mechanism. The Department does not keep separate statistics on the manpower and resources involved in the inspection of food premises.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)432

(Question Serial No. 3334)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards cases of injury at work handled by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in respect of outsourced cleansing workers,

1. please advise on the number of reported cases of injury at work received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in respect of outsourced cleansing workers in each of the past 5 years, and the measures taken by FEHD to follow up the reported cases of injury at work. If no follow-up actions have been taken, please provide the reason(s).
2. further to the above question, please set out the number of prosecutions against the contractors concerned, verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices issued, and/or other follow-up measures taken.
3. has the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department considered increasing manpower to monitor the occupational safety and health of outsourced workers?
4. has the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department specified in the tender document for each outsourced cleansing service contract and the signed contract the minimum staffing requirement for each service item, the protective equipment in the required quantities, the number of training courses on occupational safety and health, the provision of sufficient drinking water, and the regular provision of changing and locker facilities? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s). Will a review be conducted and relevant arrangements be implemented?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.: 1161)

Reply:

1.&2. The contracts signed between the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and its service contractors stipulate that in the event of any of the contractors' employees suffering from any injury or death in the course of or arising out of the contract (whether or not a claim for compensation is involved), the contractor shall, within 7 clear working days, give notice in writing of such injury or death to FEHD. The contractors are also required to comply with all the legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts, including the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509) (the Ordinance). If FEHD suspects a breach of the Ordinance in a reported case, the case will be referred to the Labour Department (LD) for investigation. If it is confirmed that the contractor has committed an offence under the Ordinance, LD will take appropriate actions including instituting prosecution against the contractor. FEHD will also take action in accordance with the contract terms, including the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as withholding/deducting monthly payment of service charge.

The number of reported cases received and the follow up measures taken by FEHD on injury at work of cleansing workers employed under cleansing service contracts in the past 5 years is given as follows -

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to 28 February 2019)
No. of reported cases on injury at work	89	94	65	68	62
No. of verbal warnings issued	10	8	10	7	4
No. of written warnings issued	0	0	0	1	0
No. of default notices issued	0	0	0	0	0

3. The contractors have a duty to ensure, as far as practicable, their employees' safety and health at work. FEHD offers appropriate assistance where possible.
4. FEHD generally adopts an "outcome-based" approach in outsourcing cleansing services. Clear and precise performance-based service requirements including the scope of the services required, level of cleanliness expected, response time for rectification of unsatisfactory performance, etc. are incorporated in the tender documents. Minimum requirements relating to manpower, work shift, and cleansing frequency are stipulated in the tender document based on operational needs. The tenderers are required to apply their expertise and experience in devising the staff deployment plan and the mode of operation to provide cleansing services up to the performance standard as required by FEHD. Tender proposals are binding once the

relevant tender is accepted and will form the basis for monitoring the contractor's performance.

Under the service contracts entered between FEHD and its contractors, it is stipulated that contractors shall comply with all legislation in relation to the execution of the service contracts. Specifically, the Occupational Safety and Health Regulation (Cap. 509A) (the Regulation) provides that employers have a duty to ensure, as far as practicable, their employees' safety and health at work, which includes, inter alia, providing sufficient drinking water and toilets for employees. If FEHD finds that any contractor fails to comply with the requirements for providing its employees with sufficient drinking water, FEHD will issue a notice of blatant default to the contractor without prior warning. FEHD will also refer the case to LD for investigation on any contravention under the Regulation.

In addition, it is also part of the contractual requirements that the contractors undertake that contractor personnel shall have the necessary training which includes training in occupational safety and health to provide the services, and the contractors should ensure that all their employees wear tidy and clean uniforms or special protective clothing which the Government may consider necessary or appropriate while they are providing the services. This includes the replacement of face mask at least once at the beginning of a work shift or immediately after the mask is damaged. The contractors are obliged to provide and replace uniforms and special protective clothing for their staff. FEHD adds a clause to newly awarded contracts to require the contractors to submit a uniform supply and allocation plan within 2 weeks after the commencement of contracts for approval. The contractor is also required to keep a record of allocation of such items to each employee with his/her acknowledgement of receipt, and produce the record at FEHD's request for inspection. There is no specific statutory or contractual requirement on the provision of changing and locker facilities. Nevertheless, many venues of FEHD with contractors engaged have changing facilities which can be used by employees of the contractors. For newly built RCPs, changing and storage facilities are provided for both in-house staff and contractors' staff if circumstances permit. FEHD has also kick-started a pilot scheme to carry out improvement works in existing roll call points, including RCPs, for provision of changing and storage facilities. It will also provide changing and storage facilities if circumstances permit when the RCPs are refurbished.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)433

(Question Serial No. 3337)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards the Government's provision for a facelift of public toilets, please advise this Committee on:

1. whether the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has carried out alterations to the refuse collection points (RCPs) in the past; if yes, (i) the name(s) of RCP(s) being altered, (ii) the year of alteration, and (iii) the expenditure involved; and
2. the expenditure involved for providing RCPs with changing rooms and common rooms for rest and meal breaks; if no statistics are available, whether an estimation will be considered.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.:1170)

Reply:

1&2. No major alterations were carried out in the Refuse Collection Points (RCPs) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past 3 years. In general, permanent off-street RCPs with roll call points are provided with changing facilities but not rest rooms. There is no breakdown on expenditure for retro-fitting of changing facilities in existing RCPs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)434

(Question Serial No. 3338)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As regards the Government's provision for a facelift of public toilets, please advise this Committee on:

1. whether the expenditure covers the provision of store rooms and common rooms in public toilets for the use of workers; if yes, the expenditure and details; and
2. if no, the expenditure for providing store rooms and common rooms in public toilets. If no statistics are available, will the Department consider making an estimation?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.: 1171)

Reply:

Amongst the 799 public toilets managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), 264 are provided with toilet attendants, of which 231 of them are provided with attendant rooms. If circumstances permit, the Department will make available attendant rooms when the toilets are refurbished. About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We plan to commence refurbishment or facelifting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)435

(Question Serial No. 3339)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In connection with the ethnic minority cleansing workers employed by the Government's outsourced service contractors, please advise this Committee on:

1. the number of Nepalese, Thai and Indonesian cleansing workers employed by the Government's outsourced service contractors in the past five years, and, if the figures are not available, whether the Government will consider making an estimate of the numbers; and
2. whether any financial provision and resources were earmarked in the past 5 years for the provision of translation service to the ethnic minority workers to help them understand the contracts and labour terms under which they worked for the Government's outsourced service contractors; if yes, the details (including the expenditure involved each year, the items of translation service and the estimated cost for the provision of each translation service etc.); if no, whether the Government will consider allocating funds for such service.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.: 1172)

Reply:

1. The information sought is not available. There is no basis for the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) to make an estimate.
2. The Department has not earmarked separate funding to provide interpretation services to ethnic minorities (EM) employed by the outsourced service contractors in the past 5 years. If EM workers require any assistance including that related to their employment contracts, the Department will help refer them to relevant departments for assistance as appropriate.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)436****(Question Serial No. 3340)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the rodent problem in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee of:

- (1) the resources and manpower allocated for tackling the rodent problem in each of the past 5 years; and
- (2) the expenditure involved in carrying out anti-rodent publicity work in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.: 1173)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has no separate breakdown on manpower resources for rodent prevention and control services or expenditure relating to publicity of rodent prevention and control. The information on manpower for pest control services as a whole and revised expenditure in rodent prevention and control in the past 5 years is provided as follows -

Financial year	Manpower on pest control services as a whole (as at 31 December)	Expenditure in rodent prevention and control (\$ million)
2014 – 15	2 317	156.2
2015 – 16	2 400	160.9
2016 – 17	2 461	164.8
2017 – 18	2 517	172.6
2018 – 19	2 643	198.3 (Revised estimate)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)437****(Question Serial No. 4609)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (-) Not specifiedControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please provide the number of complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against outsourced service contractors' non-compliance with employment requirements (with a breakdown by the type of complaints), the number of substantiated complaints, the number of cases in which outsourced service contractors were penalised due to substantiation of the complaints and the penalties thus imposed, in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (LegCo internal reference no.: 1197)Reply:

In the past 5 years, the number of employment-related complaints received by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department against outsourced service contractors is as follows -

Year	Types of Complaint					Total no. of complaints	No. of substantiated cases
	Under-payment	No signing of Standard Employment Contract	Exceeding maximum working hours	Failure to grant severance / long service payment	Others [^]		
2014	13	2	2	1	1	19	2
2015	14	0	1	3	4	22	1
2016	5	1	4	2	0	12	3
2017	6	0	1	3	6	16	1
2018	8	0	0	1	7	16	2

[^] Including late payment of wages, failure to make contribution to Mandatory Provident Fund, etc.

For substantiated cases, default notices and/or warning letters were issued to the contractors concerned. Deduction from relevant contract payments was also made as appropriate. In particular, substantiated cases in breach of certain contractual obligations will result in demerit points being recorded, which might affect the contractors' bidding of similar Government contracts in the future.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)438****(Question Serial No. 3515)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please advise on the criteria and circumstances under which a place will be considered having serious hygiene problems and listed as a so-called hygiene blackspot.

Please tabulate details of all hygiene blackspots with serious hygiene problems in Kowloon West (including Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong and Kowloon City) over the past 5 years, with a breakdown by year and District Council district as follows:

2019-20 Financial Year/Sham Shui Po District

Location of hygiene blackspot	Hygiene problem	Land use of building or site	Environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Expenditure on environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Effectiveness

2019-20 Financial Year/Yau Tsim Mong District

Location of hygiene blackspot	Hygiene problem	Land use of building or site	Environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Expenditure on environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Effectiveness

2019-20 Financial Year/Kowloon City District

Location of hygiene blackspot	Hygiene problem	Land use of building or site	Environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Expenditure on environmental hygiene enhancement measures/work	Effectiveness

Please advise whether any financial provision has been earmarked for the 2019-20 financial year to enhance cleansing work at hygiene blackspots in Kowloon West; if yes, the details.

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) receives environmental hygiene complaints from members of the public through multiple channels, including reports pinpointing locations with unsatisfactory hygiene conditions. The Department will conduct investigation and take measures to abate the nuisance. Depending on the circumstances prevailing at individual locations, the Department will adjust the frequency of street cleansing and pest control operations and step up enforcement action as appropriate. There is no hard and fast definition of what a hygienic “black spot” is; the term is used to refer to an area where the cleanliness problem remains obstinate despite enhanced cleansing.

A list of the top 5 locations in Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim, Mong Kok and Kowloon City districts, as at March 2019, to which the Department devotes more efforts and resources in tackling the problem of illegal dumping of refuse is set out at Annex.

Since June 2018, the Department has installed Internet Protocol (IP) cameras at 115 illegal refuse deposit blackspots over the territory to curb such activities. The Department plans to extend the scheme for 2 years and will consult District Councils (DCs) to draw up a prioritised site list for each district for installation of IP cameras. It will progressively increase the number of locations for installation of IP cameras to over 300 with consideration given to the locations proposed by DCs, at an estimated annual expenditure of \$26 million.

To combat illegal deposit of refuse, apart from installation of IP cameras, the Department has set up 19 dedicated enforcement teams (DETs), primarily to step up enforcement action against various public cleanliness offences. The Department will set up additional DETs in 2019-20 to strengthen law enforcement work and convey health messages, distribute leaflets and warning notices to arouse public awareness of maintaining street cleanliness and proper disposal of refuse. In addition, the Department has, with the consent of respective DCs, extended the opening hours of some refuse collection points to meet the demand for service at midnight or in the early morning. This arrangement has brought about improvements to environmental hygiene.

The Department does not keep separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure for enhancing cleansing services for the black spots of illegal dumping of refuse.

- End -

Top 5 Locations of Illegal Dumping of Refuse

(as at March 2019)

District	Location
Sham Shui Po	Junction of Ki Lung Street and Pei Ho Street
	Junction of Tai Nan Street and Pei Ho Street
	Pavement outside Fuk Wing Street Rest Garden
	Kim Sin Lane
	Junction of Kweilin Street and Lai Chi Kok Road
Yau Tsim	Star Ferry Pier, Tsim Sha Tsui
	Junction of Battery Street and Saigon Street
	Junction of Parkes Street and Bowring Street
	Junction of Dundas Street and Waterloo Road (outside Kwong Wah Hospital)
	Rear lane of Nos. 2 - 40 Portland Street
Mong Kok	Outside Skyway House, No. 3 Sham Mong Road
	Pavement of Larch Street
	Junction of Poplar Street and Tai Nan Street (Outside Poplar Street Substation)
	Junction of Ferry Street and Shan Tung Street
	Junction of Ferry Street and Nelson Street (Outside Shun King Building)
Kowloon City	Gillies Avenue North (near Gillies Avenue Post Office)
	Junction of Ma Tau Wai Road and Hok Yuen Street (near Hung Hom Square)
	Roundabout of Wan On Street
	No. 99 Dock Street
	Junction of York Road and To Fuk Road

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)439****(Question Serial No. 3544)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. Please set out in the table below the cost of replacement of air-conditioning facilities (including the cost of incidental works) in public markets under the management of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in the past 3 years.

Name of market	Frequency of replacement	Cost required (excluding cost of works)	Cost required (including cost of works)

2. Please provide in the table below the cost of the upgrading works (e.g. painting and refurbishment, upgrading/provision of facilities) (including the cost of incidental works) carried out in public markets under the management of the Department in the past 3 years.

Name of market	Upgrading item	Cost required (excluding cost of works)	Cost required (including cost of works)

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 84)

Reply:

1. The information sought is provided at Annex I.
2. As an on-going initiative, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been taking forward measures to improve the operating environment of public markets, including improvement of ventilation, lighting systems and fire services, refurbishment of external walls, refurbishment of toilets, etc. as appropriate. In addition, to ensure smooth operation of lifts and escalators in public markets, the Department started a programme in 2015-16 to replace aged lifts and escalators in

phases. The replacement works are expected to be completed progressively in the coming years. The information sought is provided at Annex II.

- End -

**Replacement of air-conditioning facilities
completed between 2016-17 and 2018-19**

District	Name of Market	Scope of works	Cost (\$Million)
2016-17			
Central and Western	Centre Street Market	Replacement of variable refrigerant volume air-conditioning units of cooked food centre (CFC)	1.5
Kwun Tong	Yee On Street Market	Replacement of air handling units (AHUs)	2.6
Sha Tin	Sha Tin Market	Replacement of AHU	1.8
2017-18			
Eastern	Yue Wan Market	Replacement of the chiller plants of CFC	7.3
	Chai Wan Market	Replacement of the chiller plants of CFC	4.0
		Replacement of AHU of wet market portion	0.5
Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yi Market	Replacement of AHUs	1.0
North	Luen Wo Hui Market	Replacement of chiller plants	14.4
Tuen Mun	San Hui Market	Replacement of AHU	0.2
2018-19			
Eastern	Yue Wan Market	Replacement of thermal insulation for air ducts with cement plaster in CFC	1.2
		Replacement of the chiller plants of wet market portion	8.0
	Electric Road Market	Replacement of primary air units of Market Economic Air Treatment System	1.5

Improvement works completed between 2016-17 and 2018-19

District	Name of Market	Scope of works	Cost (\$Million)
2016-17			
Central and Western	Centre Street Market	Replacement of variable refrigerant volume of the air-conditioning units of CFC	1.5
	Sheung Wan Market	Refurbishment of toilets	0.9
Eastern	Java Road Market	Improvement works for the plumbing and drainage system	1.4
		Improvement works for false ceiling and fire service (FS) installations in CFC	2.0
	Quarry Bay Market	Electricity upgrading works in CFC	0.3
Mong Kok	Fa Yuen Street Market	Power upgrading works in CFC	0.9
Sham Shui Po	Pei Ho Street Market	Refurbishment of CFC and toilets	29.7
Wong Tai Sin	Tai Shing Street Market	Improvement of air-conditioner of market office	0.4
Yau Tsim	Haiphong Road Temporary Market	Replacement of roofing panels and improvement of lighting and ventilation system	21.0
Kwun Tong	Yee On Street Market	Replacement of AHUs	2.6
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	Replacement of 1 escalator	2.5
Sha Tin	Sha Tin Market	Replacement of AHU	1.8
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
2017-18			
Central and Western	Sheung Wan Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Eastern	Sai Wan Ho Market	Electricity upgrading works in CFC	0.3
	Yue Wan Market	Replacement of the chiller plants of CFC	7.3
	Chai Wan Market	Replacement of the chiller plants of CFC	4.0
Southern	Tin Wan Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
	Yue Kwong Road Market	Replacement of 1 escalator	2.5
Kowloon City	Hung Hom Market	Replacement of 1 escalator	2.5

District	Name of Market	Scope of works	Cost (\$Million)
Sham Shui Po	Po On Road Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Kwai Tsing	Tsing Yi Market	Replacement of AHUs	1.0
North	Luen Wo Hui Market	Replacement of chiller plants	14.4
	Kwu Tung Market Shopping Centre	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
	Shek Wu Hui Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Tuen Mun	San Hui Market	Replacement of AHU	0.2
		Replacement of floor tiles	4.0
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Market	Refurbishment of external walls and toilets	17.0
	Yeung Uk Road Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Tai Po	Tai Po Hui Market	Improvement to lighting system of CFC	1.8
2018-19			
Central and Western	Smithfield Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Eastern	Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	Upgrading of FS system	2.0
		Upgrading electricity works	0.8
	Yue Wan Market	Replacement of thermal insulation for air ducts with cement plaster in CFC	1.2
		Replacement of the chiller plants of wet market portion	8.0
	Electric Road Market	Replacement of primary air units of Market Economic Air Treatment System	1.5
		Replacement of air diffusers	0.8
Java Road Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0	
Wong Tai Sin	Ngau Chi Wan Market	Installation of air-conducting fans	1.1
Mongkok	Fa Yuen Street Market	Replacement of 4 escalators	10.0
Kowloon City	Kowloon City Market	Replacement of lighting	0.4
		Rewiring works for public lighting	0.2
Yau Tsim	Kwun Chung Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
North	Shek Wu Hui Market	Replacement of 2 escalators	5.0
Tsuen Wan	Yeung Uk Road Market	Replacement of 2 escalators and 1 lift	7.5
Kwai Tsing	Kwai Shun Street Cooked Food	Upgrading of electricity works	0.6
		Upgrading of FS system	0.8

District	Name of Market	Scope of works	Cost (\$Million)
	Market		
	Cheung Tat Road Cooked Food Market	Upgrading of FS system	0.7
	Wing Fong Street Market	Enhancement of market facade	0.5
Yuen Long	Tai Tong Road Cooked Food Market	Replacement of exhaust system	0.4
Sha Tin	Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East)	Electricity upgrading works	2.0
	Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (West)	Electricity upgrading works	2.0

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)440

(Question Serial No. 3364)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

The Financial Secretary announces the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme, that design and facilities of 240 public toilets will be improved in phase with an estimated expenditure of \$600m. In this connection, please provide the following information:

1. Whether there is timetable and priority list of public toilets for the 5 year renovation; If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
2. Whether assessment and public consultation will be made on the need and design of renovation for each public toilet. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
3. Whether there will be a cap on the amount reserved for each renovation work, and whether the works can be completed within the approved estimates?

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

1. About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We plan to commence refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.
2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) will consult the relevant District Council on refurbishment of public toilets, including the specific toilets to be refurbished, the layout, duration of the refurbishment works as well as the temporary arrangements during closure.

3. FEHD will collaborate with the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) to finalise the scope of works for the public toilet renovation projects. While the estimate for each project depends on various factors such as renovated area, scope of works and materials used, the project cost for each project will be capped within \$30 million. ArchSD, being the works department will monitor the project costs, time and quality.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)441

(Question Serial No. 6582)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In recent years, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department issued on many occasions Notices to Remove Obstruction under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to elderly scavengers who were ordered to remove the articles placed on roads and pavements within 4 hours, otherwise further enforcement actions would be taken. Some members of the public point out that there have long been commercial publicity materials displayed on streets, newspapers displayed and distributed by printed media at the exits of mass transit railway stations, pedestrian crossings and major pedestrian thoroughfares, as well as street posts set up by organisations with hanging banners to promote their notions in various districts over the territory. They query why no enforcement actions are taken against the parties concerned. In this connection, please advise me on:

- (1) the number of complaints received against street obstructions and unsightliness caused by the articles of elderly scavengers in various districts over the territory, among which the numbers of cases where Notices were issued and prosecutions were taken respectively, as well as the ordinance(s) under which the prosecutions were taken in the past 5 years (2013-2018);
- (2) the number of complaints received against street obstructions caused by commercial activities (including demonstrations and promotion of commercial products, as well as telecommunications services like registration for broadband internet and mobile network services) and publicity activities by organisations in various districts over the territory, among which the numbers of cases where Notices were issued and prosecutions were taken respectively in the past 5 years (2013-2018);
- (3) the number of complaints received against the display and distribution of newspapers by printed media at exits of mass transit railway stations, pedestrian crossings and major pedestrian thoroughfares in various districts over the territory, among which the numbers of cases where Notices were issued and prosecutions were taken respectively in the past 5 years (2013-2018); and

- (4) whether the Department takes into account the identities of the persons being complained and the seriousness of the cases in deciding whether to take enforcement actions against the complaints received in (1) to (3) or not; if yes, the specific enforcement standards and legal basis.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 397)

Reply:

- (1) The information sought is provided as follows -

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of complaints	109	75	137	124	179
Number of Notices to Remove Obstruction issued	52	59	72	84	135
Number of prosecutions under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap.132)	0	0	2	1	2

- (2) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) may take enforcement actions against illegal hawking and obstruction of public places under section 83B of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) (the Ordinance) and/or section 4A of the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228). On illegal display or affixing of bills or posters on Government land, the Department may take enforcement actions under section 104(A)1 of the Ordinance. The publicity materials concerned will be removed by the Department, and a fixed penalty notice (FPN) of \$1,500 issued to the offender at the scene under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570). In the past 5 years, the number of complaints and enforcement actions against relevant activities is as follows -

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of complaints	3 201	1 260	1 023	1 187	676
Number of prosecutions under section 4A of Cap.228	573	350	269	240	120
Number of prosecutions under section 83(B)(1) of Cap.132	4	5	0	0	0
Number of FPNs issued under Cap. 570	2 583	2 722	2 681	3 170	3 713

- (3) Distribution of free newspapers by printed media is not a violation of the law per se. However, the Department may issue an FPN of \$1,500 under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570) to any person depositing refuse in public places. The number of complaints against distribution of free newspapers in the past 5 years is as follows -

Calendar year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of complaints	43	39	41	36	26

The Department did not issue any FPN or institute any prosecution in this respect in the past 5 years.

- (4) Staff of the Department are empowered to enforce relevant Ordinances to safeguard environmental hygiene. It is their duty to take enforcement actions against offences. The laws should be enforced on a non-discriminatory basis. Frontline staff are required to take appropriate actions in accordance with operational guidelines issued by the Department with regard to the actual circumstances.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)442

(Question Serial No. 4241)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the operation of licensed slaughterhouses, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is responsible for conducting inspections and tests on live food animals at licensed slaughterhouses and providing meat inspection services at licensed slaughterhouses. In this connection, what is the manpower for carrying out the regular duties concerned? Please set out in tabular form the number of staff with a breakdown by post. In case of emergency, such as an outbreak of swine flu in pigs, what are the contingency plans?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 60)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) is responsible for examining the health of live food animals and providing meat inspection services in the licensed slaughterhouses. The manpower involved in ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections is provided at Annex.

To ensure that meat supplied to the market is fit for human consumption, all imported and local food animals have to undergo stringent ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections in slaughterhouses. The Department implements contingency measures in case of an infectious disease outbreak, including isolation of infected animals for examination, culling and disposal of infected animals, and isolated slaughtering of uninfected animals for thorough examination before releasing to the market. Cleansing and disinfection work will be strengthened in the slaughterhouses to prevent spread of the disease.

- End -

**Staff establishment in Slaughterhouses for
Examination of live food animals and meat inspection**

Grade	Establishment
Veterinary Officer	9
Health Inspectorate	49
Field Officer	36
Field Assistant	30
Other supporting staff	15

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)443

(Question Serial No. 5858)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) Please advise on the number of existing crematoria and cremators.
- (2) Please provide information on the utilisation rates of the crematoria and cremators in the past 3 years. Please also advise whether additional crematoria and cremators will be provided in the next 3 years in view of the ageing population; if yes, the number of additional facilities to be provided; if no, the reason(s).
- (3) Please advise on the usage rate of the burial spaces in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 597)

Reply:

- (1) There are 6 crematoria managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department). The number of cremators in each crematorium is given as follows -

Name of Crematorium	Number of Cremators
Cape Collinson	10
Diamond Hill	6
Fu Shan	4
Kwai Chung	4
Cheung Chau	2
Wo Hop Shek	6
Total:	32

- (2) Information on the number of cremation sessions released, cremation sessions booked and the percentage of cremation sessions booked in public crematoria managed by the Department in the last 3 years is provided as follows -

Name of Crematorium	2016			2017			2018		
	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked	No. of cremation sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	Percentage of cremation sessions booked
Cape Collinson	15 111	12 945	85.7%	14 869	14 161	95.2%	14 869	14 721	99.0%
Diamond Hill	8 578	8 519	99.3%	8 253	8 203	99.4%	8 270	8 242	99.7%
Fu Shan	5 895	5 814	98.6%	5 563	5 518	99.2%	6 148	6 101	99.2%
Kwai Chung	6 560	6 494	99.0%	6 622	6 558	99.0%	7 303	7 273	99.6%
Cheung Chau	1 105	119	10.8%	1 170	101	8.6%	1 222	133	10.9%
Wo Hop Shek	10 629	9 665	90.9%	8 611	8 268	96.0%	7 421	7 333	98.8%
Total:	47 878	43 556	91.0%	45 088	42 809	94.9%	45 233	43 803	96.8%

Reprovisioning of the Cape Collinson Crematorium to provide 10 new cremators and ancillary facilities was completed in December 2015. The overall cremation capacity of all public crematoria has increased from 44 600 to 52 800 sessions per annum, which is expected to meet the projected demand up to 2022. In light of the demand and supply situation, no additional public crematoria or cremators will be provided in the next 3 years.

- (3) The usage rates of the coffin burial spaces at public cemeteries managed by the Department in the last 3 years are as follows -

Name of Cemetery	2016			2017			2018		
	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
Wo Hop Shek	5 091	9 469	53.8%	4 689	9 469	49.5%	4 447	9 469	47.0%
Sandy Ridge	2 151	5 010	42.9%	2 072	5 010	41.4%	1 972	5 010	39.4%
Cheung Chau	563	1 260	44.7%	534	1 260	42.4%	514	1 260	40.8%
Tai O	101	420	24.0%	102	420	24.3%	98	420	23.3%
Lai Chi Yuen	127	276	46.0%	115	276	41.7%	111	276	40.2%
Total:	8 033	16 435	48.9%	7 512	16 435	45.7%	7 142	16 435	43.5%

Legend: (i) No. of allocated coffin burial spaces
(ii) Total no. of coffin burial spaces
(iii) Percentage of coffin burial spaces allocated

The usage rates of the urn burial spaces at public cemeteries managed by the Department in the last 3 years are as follows -

Name of Cemetery	2016			2017			2018		
	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)
Wo Hop Shek	82 839	112 954	73.3%	83 256	112 984	73.7%	83 827	113 071	74.1%
Sandy Ridge	31 838	37 717	84.4%	31 842	37 719	84.4%	31 798	37 697	84.4%
Cheung Chau	12 172	13 462	90.4%	12 195	13 462	90.6%	12 215	13 462	90.7%
Tai O	108	274	39.4%	111	274	40.5%	116	274	42.3%
Lai Chi Yuen	250	332	75.3%	263	332	79.2%	272	332	81.9%
Diamond Hill Urn Cemetery (declared closed since 1961)	52 600	52 600	100.0%	52 579	52 579	100.0%	52 551	52 551	100.0%
Total:	179 807	217 339	82.7%	180 246	217 350	82.9%	180 779	217 387	83.2%

Legend: (iv) No. of allocated urn burial spaces
(v) Total no. of urn burial spaces
(vi) Percentage of urn burial spaces allocated

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)444****(Question Serial No. 6060)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

- (1) Please set out the total number of unlicensed (non-cooked food) hawkers arrested in the past 3 years who were over 60 years of age.
- (2) Please set out the total number of unlicensed (cooked food) hawkers arrested in the past 3 years who were over 60 years of age.
- (3) Please set out the total number of unlicensed (non-cooked food) hawkers arrested in the past 3 years who were under 60 years of age.
- (4) Please set out the total number of unlicensed (cooked food) hawkers arrested in the past 3 years who were under 60 years of age.
- (5) Please set out the total number of unlicensed hawkers arrested in the past 5 years who were not Hong Kong Identity Card holders.
- (6) Will the Department respond to public opinion and re-issue itinerant hawker licences in the coming year? If yes, what is the implementation time? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 598)

Reply:

- (1)-(4) The number of arrests taken against illegal cooked food and non-cooked food hawkers in the past 3 years is provided as follows -

Calendar year	Unlicensed cooked food hawkers	Unlicensed non-cooked food hawkers
2016	42	4 378
2017	47	1 719
2018	60	1 375

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department does not keep separate statistics on the age of unlicensed hawkers.

- (5) A total of 72 illegal hawkers, who were not Hong Kong Identity Card holders, were arrested in the past 5 years (2014 to 2018).
- (6) Itinerant hawkers usually gather at prime locations when in operation. They impede pedestrian and/or vehicular flow with their trolleys and goods and bring about environmental hygiene and general nuisance concerns. Hence, the Government maintains the existing policy of not issuing new itinerant hawker licences.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)445

(Question Serial No. 3957)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As at March 2019, what is the total amount of funding approved under the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP)? Please set out the public markets subsidised under the MMP.

Will the market tenants who have to move out be compensated under the MMP?

Kwun Chung Market has a high vacancy rate and the environmental hygiene condition is poor. Please advise whether and when it will be included in the MMP.

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (LegCo internal reference no.: 54)

Reply:

Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has proposed that, in the first phase of Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for revitalising Aberdeen Market will also set as a model for similar future projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

The Department has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of MMP projects can only be determined when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

For market tenants who may be affected by the MMP, the Government will consider whether and what assistance may be provided to them under prevailing policy.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)446

(Question Serial No. 4683)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please advise this Committee on:

- 1) the details of launching the Market Modernisation Programme in 2019-20 under this Programme and the expenditure involved;
- 2) the progress of improvement works for Sheung Fung Street Market; and
- 3) the locations of the targeted public markets which are under-utilised and intended to be closed over the next 3 years.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 133)

Reply:

- 1) Having regard to a preliminary assessment of existing markets and views gathered from the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has proposed that, in the first phase of Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), a fundamental overhaul for 4 markets and refurbishment and minor improvement works for at least another 3 will be taken forward. The pioneering project of the MMP will be the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. We have been actively liaising with the tenants there and other stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The overhaul arrangements for revitalising Aberdeen Market will also set a model for similar future projects. After the details of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will kick-start other first phase projects progressively from 2019 onwards.

FEHD has set up a dedicated team to take forward, among other duties, the planning and implementation of MMP projects with the support of 37 staff. The estimated expenditure to be incurred in 2019-20 is \$33.9 million. The capital works expenditure and recurrent costs of any project under the MMP can only be determined

when the scope of works is finalised, and upon completion of technical feasibility studies and cost-effectiveness assessment.

- 2) FEHD has followed up the improvement measures for Sheung Fung Street Market recommended by the consultant commissioned by the Food and Health Bureau. Having consulted the Market Management Consultative Committee concerned, FEHD has commenced the improvement works supported by the tenants for completion in the second quarter of 2019 at an estimated cost of \$5.0 million.
- 3) As a result of demographic changes, new development/redevelopment projects and competition from other fresh provision outlets, the appeal of some public markets has been diminishing over time, with some having very low patronage and high vacancy rates. Closure of such markets may release precious land resources for more gainful uses to better serve the community. When considering whether an under-utilised market is to be closed, FEHD will take into account a host of factors, including vacancy rate, prospects for improvement, availability of alternative sources of fresh provision outlets in the vicinity, the likely cost-effectiveness of upgrading works and the views of the relevant District Councils, etc. FEHD will consult the relevant District Council(s) and the market tenants to be affected on any market closure plans. FEHD is planning to close Cheung Sha Wan Cooked Food Market and Tui Min Hoi Market in 2019-20.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)447

(Question Serial No. 4684)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the enforcement against shop front extensions (SFE), please advise this Committee on:

- 1) the number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and the 18 districts in the territory;
- 2) the manpower and expenditure involved in the Department's actions against SFE in each of the past 3 years; and
- 3) given the implementation of the fixed penalty system, the number of fixed penalty notices issued in 2018-19, as well as the estimated manpower and expenditure for 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 134)

Reply:

- 1) The number of complaints received and prosecutions instituted against shop front extensions (SFEs) by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by year and district is provided at Annex I.
- 2) Taking out enforcement action against SFEs is part of the duties of the Department's hawker control staff. Information on the manpower involved and expenditure incurred in hawker control in each of the past 3 years is provided at Annex II. Further breakdown of the manpower and expenditure on enforcement action in this aspect is not available.
- 3) In 2018, the Department issued a total of 7 586 Fixed Penalty Notices against SFEs.

The fixed penalty system provides an additional tool for tackling SFE problems. Any work involved would be taken as part of the Department's overall enforcement work in this respect and there is no specific estimated manpower and expenditure on this for 2019-20.

- End -

**Number of Complaints Received and Prosecutions by the Department
on Shop Front Extensions (SFEs)**

District	Number of Complaints			Number of Prosecutions*		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Central & Western	756	931	636	670	280	166
Wan Chai	888	656	654	889	211	189
Eastern	1 399	1 146	1 103	721	387	215
Southern	299	317	252	431	190	42
Islands	129	110	92	36	60	30
Yau Tsim	809	770	399	184	140	83
Mong Kok	1 847	1 222	1 107	1 522	241	254
Sham Shui Po	2 910	2 892	2 034	1 813	456	311
Kowloon City	934	766	548	613	77	73
Wong Tai Sin	334	542	708	624	110	101
Kwun Tong	859	1 299	1 267	269	201	302
Kwai Tsing	489	343	306	359	270	138
Tsuen Wan	931	921	685	2 463	224	230
Tuen Mun	346	306	282	546	357	430
Yuen Long	1 483	1 806	856	1 946	712	570
North	554	359	356	233	37	67
Tai Po	585	1 092	707	280	61	117
Sha Tin	380	226	268	590	87	158
Sai Kung	232	217	198	118	103	101
Total	16 164	15 921	12 458	14 307	4 204	3 577

Note: * The Fixed Penalty System against SFEs was introduced on 24 September 2016. The figure does not include the Fixed Penalty Notices issued by the Department against SFEs.

**Manpower and expenditure
incurred in hawker control**

Financial year	Number of staff	Expenditure (\$ million)
2016-17	2 243	1,108.8
2017-18	2 264	1,074.2
2018-19 (Revised Estimate)	2 264	1,148.0

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)448

(Question Serial No. 4685)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the collection of household waste and management of refuse collection points (RCPs) under this Programme, please advise this Committee on:

- 1) the location and area of each RCP installed with a mobile refuse compactor, as well as the daily average amount of refuse handled by the compactor, as at 31 December 2018;
- 2) whether there is any plan to install mobile refuse compactors in other RCPs in 2019-20; if yes, the details and the expenditure to be involved; and
- 3) whether the newly built RCPs will be required to reserve space for installing mobile refuse compactors.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 135)

Reply:

- 1) As at 31 December 2018, there are 54 permanent off-street refuse collection points (RCPs) managed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) which are provided with mobile refuse compactors. The information sought is provided at Annex.
- 2) The Department plans to install a mobile refuse compactor in Smithfield Municipal Services Building RCP in 2019-20. There is no separate breakdown on expenditure on provision of the mobile refuse compactor.
- 3) The Department will consider the provision of mobile refuse compactors in individual RCPs, including those under planning, on operational need and where the site situation permits.

- End -

**List of permanent off-street public refuse collection points
provided with mobile refuse compactors**

Name	Location	Area (square metres)	Estimated Daily Amount of Refuse Handled (tonnes)
Shek Tong Tsui Refuse Collection Point (RCP)	Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Building, No. 470, Queen's Road West	430	19
In Ku Lane RCP	No.8, In Ku Lane, Sheung Wan	364	12
Man Kat Street RCP	Junction of Man Kat Street & Connaught Road Central	360	35
Lan Kwai Fong RCP	At side of Lan Kwai Fong Sitting-out Area	312	30
Tanner Road RCP	No. 63, Tanner Road	435	6
Java Road RCP	No. 94, Java Road (G/F of Java Road Market)	170	20
Tung Hei Road RCP	At side of No. 28, Tung Hei Road	389	11
Hing Man Street RCP	Junction of Hing Man Street & Oi Yee Street	364	15
Sing Woo Road RCP	Junction of Sing Woo Road & Yik Yam Street	304	16
Luard Road RCP	Junction of Luard Road & Johnston Road	224	33
Gloucester Road RCP	Opposite No. 250, Gloucester Road	104	47
Ma Tau Kok Road RCP	Ma Tau Kok Road	430	10
Kowloon City Complex RCP	Hau Wong Road (Kowloon City Municipal Service Building)	184	10
Baker Street RCP	No.65, Baker Street	170	16
Anchor Street RCP	No. 55, Anchor Street	212	13
Dundas Street RCP	Junction of Dundas Street & Tung Choi Street	170	46
Nullah Road RCP	Opposite Nos. 3-13, Nullah Street	158	16
Yu Chau Street RCP	Opposite No. 47, Yu Chau Street	131	23
Mong Kok Road RCP	No. 661B, Shanghai Street	334	20
Nelson Street RCP	No. 1024, Canton Road	251	11
Portland Street RCP	No. 193, Portland Street	156	13
Sai Yee Street RCP	No.188, Sai Yee Street	90	15
Cheung Wah Street RCP	360 Shun Ning Road	420	18

Name	Location	Area (square metres)	Estimated Daily Amount of Refuse Handled (tonnes)
Un Chau Street RCP	Nos. 59 – 63, Un Chau Street	410	16
Pei Ho Street RCP	No. 333, Kilung Street	266	16
Yee Kuk Street RCP	No. 152, Yee Kuk Street	250	15
Yi Lun Street RCP	G/F, San Po Kong Plaza, No. 33, Shung Ling Street, San Po Kong	420	18
Parkes Street RCP	No. 107, Parkes Street, Jordan	372	28
Market Street RCP	No. 1, Market Street, Yau Ma Tei	280	10
Kwun Chung Street RCP	No. 17, Bowring Street, Jordan	162	14
Minden Row RCP	Opposite No.3, Minden Row, Tsim Sha Tsu	127	15
Auto Plaza RCP	Auto Plaza, Mody Square, Tsim Sha Tsui East	220	14
Kimberley Street RCP	No. 28, Kimberley Street, Tsim Sha Tsui	219	25
Man Cheong Street RCP	Opposite No.47, Man Cheong Street, Jordan	160	5
Fu Hing Street RCP	At side of No. 16, Fu Hing Street, Sheung Shui	298	17
Luen Fat Street RCP	Opposite No.18, Luen Fat Street, Fanling	246	15
Yi Chun Street RCP	Yi Chun Street (opposite to Sai Kung Market)	195	10
Fuk Man Road RCP	Fuk Man Road (at side of Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground)	150	6
Chik Fai Street Tai Wai RCP	Chik Fai Street, Tai Wai	55	4
Tsing Hoi Circuit RCP (Area 37B)	Area 37B, Tsing Hoi Circuit	170	9
Tseng Choi Street RCP (Area 4B)	Area 4B, Tseng Choi Street	170	7
Kai Fat Path RCP (Area 10A)	Kai Fat Path, Yan Ching Street	146	12
Evergreen Court RCP	G/F., No. 9, Chui Lok Street	350	6
Yan Hing Street RCP	Yan Hing Street	165	9
Kwong Fuk Square RCP	Kwong Fuk Square	100	16
Luen Yan Street RCP	No. 10, Luen Yan Street	183	19

Name	Location	Area (square metres)	Estimated Daily Amount of Refuse Handled (tonnes)
Tsuen Wan Market Street RCP	Tsuen Wan Market Street (Opposite No. 150)	170	20
Heung Che Street RCP	Heung Che Street (at side of Heung Che Street Market)	168	19
Yan Lok Square RCP	At side of Chung Sing Path Playground, Yan Lok Square	170	19
Tai Tong Road RCP	Junction of Tai Tong Road and Hop Yick Road	170	20
Tai Kiu RCP	At side of Tai Kiu Market, Kiu Lok Square	170	16
Kam Cheung Square RCP	Junction of Kam Cheung Square and Sai Yu Street	170	16
Tung Tai Street RCP	Junction of Tung Tai Street & On Lok Road	125	16
Fung Kwan Street RCP	Fung Kwan Street near Car Park (Open space)	120	16

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)449

(Question Serial No. 4956)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (001) Salaries

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health
(2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services
(3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the conditions of employment of cleansing workers engaged by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), please provide:

- (1) (i) the number of cleansing workers employed by the Department on civil service terms; (ii) the number of the Department's outsourced cleansing workers, and (iii) the total number of cleansing workers of the Department in the (a) 2014-15 financial year, (b) 2015-16 financial year, (c) 2016-17 financial year, (d) 2017-18 financial year and (e) 2018-19 financial year in tabular form;

	(i) Number of civil servants	(ii) Number of outsourced workers	(iii) Total
(a) 2014-15 financial year			
(b) 2015-16 financial year			
(c) 2016-17 financial year			
(d) 2017-18 financial year			
(e) 2018-19 financial year			

- (2) (i) the lowest, (ii) the lower quartile, (iii) the median, (iv) the average, (v) the upper quartile and (vi) the highest wage rates of cleansing workers employed by the Department on civil service terms in the (a) 2014-15 financial year, (b) 2015-16 financial year, (c) 2016-17 financial year, (d) 2017-18 financial year and (e) 2018-19 financial year in tabular form;

	(i) Lowest wage rate	(ii) Lower quartile wage rate	(iii) Median wage rate	(iv) Average wage rate	(v) Upper quartile wage rate	(vi) Highest wage rate
(a) 2014-15 financial year						
(b) 2015-16 financial year						
(c) 2016-17 financial year						
(d) 2017-18 financial year						
(e) 2018-19 financial year						

- (3) (i) the lowest, (ii) the lower quartile, (iii) the median, (iv) the average, (v) the upper quartile and (vi) the highest wage rates of the Department's outsourced cleansing workers in the (a) 2014-15 financial year, (b) 2015-16 financial year, (c) 2016-17 financial year, (d) 2017-18 financial year and (e) 2018-19 financial year in tabular form;

	(i) Lowest wage rate	(ii) Lower quartile wage rate	(iii) Median wage rate	(iv) Average wage rate	(v) Upper quartile wage rate	(vi) Highest wage rate
(a) 2014-15 financial year						
(b) 2015-16 financial year						
(c) 2016-17 financial year						

(d) 2017-18 financial year						
(e) 2018-19 financial year						

- (4) (i) the minimum number, (ii) the median number, (iii) the average number and (iv) the highest number of days of annual leave that the cleansing workers employed by the Department on civil service terms are entitled to in the (a) 2014-15 financial year, (b) 2015-16 financial year, (c) 2016-17 financial year, (d) 2017-18 financial year and (e) 2018-19 financial year in tabular form;

	(i) Minimum number of days	(ii) Median number of days	(iii) Average number of days	(iv) Highest number of days
(a) 2014-15 financial year				
(b) 2015-16 financial year				
(c) 2016-17 financial year				
(d) 2017-18 financial year				
(e) 2018-19 financial year				

- (5) (i) the minimum number, (ii) the median number, (iii) the average number and (iv) the highest number of days of annual leave that the Department's outsourced cleansing workers are entitled to in the (a) 2014-15 financial year, (b) 2015-16 financial year, (c) 2016-17 financial year, (d) 2017-18 financial year and (e) 2018-19 financial year in tabular form;

	(i) Minimum number of days	(ii) Median number of days	(iii) Average number of days	(iv) Highest number of days
(a) 2014-15 financial year				
(b) 2015-16 financial year				
(c) 2016-17 financial year				
(d) 2017-18 financial year				
(e) 2018-19 financial year				

- (6) (i) the minimum number, (ii) the median number, (iii) the average number and (iv) the highest number of days of sick leave that the cleansing workers employed by the Department on civil service terms are entitled to in the (a) 2014-15 financial year, (b) 2015-16 financial year, (c) 2016-17 financial year, (d) 2017-18 financial year and (e) 2018-19 financial year in tabular form;

	(i) Minimum number of days	(ii) Median number of days	(iii) Average number of days	(iv) Highest number of days
(a) 2014-15 financial year				
(b) 2015-16 financial year				
(c) 2016-17 financial year				
(d) 2017-18 financial year				
(e) 2018-19 financial year				

- (7) (i) the minimum number, (ii) the median number, (iii) the average number and (iv) the highest number of days of sick leave that the Department's outsourced cleansing workers are entitled to in the (a) 2014-15 financial year, (b) 2015-16 financial year, (c) 2016-17 financial year, (d) 2017-18 financial year and (e) 2018-19 financial year in tabular form; and

	(i) Minimum number of days	(ii) Median number of days	(iii) Average number of days	(iv) Highest number of days
(a) 2014-15 financial year				
(b) 2015-16 financial year				
(c) 2016-17 financial year				
(d) 2017-18 financial year				
(e) 2018-19 financial year				

- (8) the measures to be taken by the Department in the 2019-20 financial year to improve the situation of the outsourced cleansing workers, given that their conditions of employment and their work environment have all along been less favourable than those of the cleansing workers employed by the Department on civil service terms.

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (LegCo internal reference no.: 129)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (1) Number of cleansing workers of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department).

	(i) Number of civil servants	(ii) Number of outsourced workers	(iii) Total
2014-15	2 033	8 652	10 685
2015-16	2 099	8 875	10 974
2016-17	2 000	8 828	10 828
2017-18	2 060	9 488	11 548
2018-19 (as at 31.12.2018)	2 009	9 834	11 843

- (2) Monthly wages of cleansing workers employed by the Department.

	Lowest wage rate	Highest wage rate
2014-15	\$11,055	\$14,395
2015-16	\$11,570	\$15,065
2016-17	\$12,115	\$15,775
2017-18	\$12,475	\$16,240
2018-19 (as at 31.12.2018)	\$13,040	\$16,975

Further information on wage rate is not available.

- (3) The committed monthly wages of the Department's outsourced cleansing workers.

	Lowest monthly wage	Median monthly wage	Average monthly wage	Highest monthly wage
Cleansing workmen				
2014-15	\$7,440	\$7,600	\$7,666	\$9,500
2015-16	\$8,060	\$8,184	\$8,172	\$9,500
2016-17	\$8,060	\$8,308	\$8,312	\$10,350
2017-18	\$8,556	\$8,804	\$8,815	\$15,200
2018-19	\$8,556	\$8,928	\$9,089	\$15,200
Toilet attendants				
2014-15	\$8,370	\$8,510	\$8,615	\$9,207
2015-16	\$9,068	\$9,207	\$9,209	\$9,486

2016-17	\$9,068	\$9,347	\$9,313	\$9,626
2017-18	\$9,626	\$9,905	\$9,902	\$10,323
2018-19	\$9,626	\$10,044	\$10,129	\$11,439

Further information is not available.

(4) and (7)

Cleansing workers employed by the Department are eligible for annual leave of 14 days or 22 days, and sick leave of a certain number of days, depending on his length of service. Officers with less than 4 years of service, for instance, may be granted sick leave of up to 91 days on full pay and 91 days on half pay. The other information sought is not available.

(8) Following announcement in the Chief Executive's Policy Address, the Department will adopt the following new enhancement measures for service tenders to be issued on or after 1 April 2019 to protect outsourced non-skilled workers (including toilet attendants) employed by its service contractors -

- (i) the weighting of technical assessment of the marking scheme will increase from the current 30% to 50%;
- (ii) the weighting of wage level will increase to 25 points out of 100 points (25%) in the technical assessment;
- (iii) a contractual gratuity being 6% of the total wages earned by a non-skilled worker will be provided for the worker with no less than one year's service of a continuous contract upon completion of an employment contract or termination of employment (save for summary dismissal as a serious disciplinary action);
- (iv) statutory holiday pay will be provided for a non-skilled worker having been employed under a continuous contract for not less than a month; and
- (v) if a non-skilled worker is required to work when typhoon signal no. 8 or above is hoisted, the amount of wages for that day/shift's work should be at least 150% of the wages that the worker is originally entitled to.

To benefit non-skilled workers engaged in the service contracts during the transitional period between the announcement of the new policy in October 2018 and the effective date of 1 April 2019, the Department has negotiated with the service contractors concerned to incorporate relevant new enhancement measures into the service contracts by making top-up payments on a reimbursement basis for the additional costs incurred.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)450

(Question Serial No. 5581)

Head: (31) Customs and Excise Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (5) Trade Controls

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Hermes TANG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the amount of administrative penalties imposed by the Customs and Excise Department in relation to import and export declarations in 2018:

1. Please list the numbers of cases in which a fine was imposed for contravention of the Import and Export (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2013 (commonly known as the "export control of powdered formulae") broken down by month in 2018 as well as the total amounts of fines involved.
2. What were the number of cases with imposition of fines ended up in default of fine payment in 2018 as well as the total amount of fines in default?
3. What were the types of document of identity (e.g. Hong Kong Permanent Identity Card, "multiple-entry" Individual Visit Endorsements, etc.) the defendants held in cases of default of fine payment?
4. How does the Government normally handle cases of default of fine payment and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 412)

Reply:

1. The numbers of cases in which a fine was imposed by the courts for contravention of the Import and Export (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2013 and the amounts of fines involved with breakdown by month in 2018 are tabulated below:

Month Imposed	Number of Cases	Amount of Fines
January	358	\$1,221,100
February	202	\$671,700
March	300	\$1,001,500
April	267	\$897,300
May	293	\$1,297,700
June	342	\$1,129,200

Month Imposed	Number of Cases	Amount of Fines
July	340	\$1,132,100
August	391	\$2,094,600
September	310	\$1,041,300
October	343	\$1,112,900
November	372	\$1,179,200
December	307	\$988,500
Whole Year	3 825	\$13,767,100

2. & 3. The Judiciary does not have the relevant breakdown figures.

4. A magistrate may issue a summons or a warrant of arrest to any person who fails to pay a fine. However, it is difficult to separately quantify the expenditure on handling such cases.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)451****(Question Serial No. 7275)**Head: (31) Customs and Excise DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-)-Programme: (5) Trade ControlsControlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Hermes TANG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

What were the respective numbers of complaints received concerning the smuggling of powdered formulae, and prosecutions and convictions for contravention of the "export control of powdered formulae" in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Pierre (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)Reply:

The numbers of allegations received by the Customs and Excise Department concerning the smuggling of powdered formulae in the past 3 years are as follows:

	2016	2017	2018
Number of allegations	243	143	111

The numbers of prosecutions and convictions for contravening the "export control of powdered formulae" in the past 3 years are as follows:

	2016	2017	2018
Number of prosecutions	3 830	3 848	3 863
Number of convictions	3 802	3 833	3 843

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)452****(Question Serial No. 6309)**Head: (31) Customs and Excise DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (1) Control and EnforcementControlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise (Hermes TANG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Will the Department please set out in table form the following figures by control point in the past 3 years:

the respective numbers of cases, prosecutions and convictions related to contravention of the “export control of powdered formulae”, and the quantities of powdered formulae involved.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 82)

Reply:

The numbers of prosecutions and convictions for contravening the “export control of powdered formulae” in the past 3 years are as follows:

2016

	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions
Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point	2 254	2 231
Lo Wu Control Point	1 257	1 252
Shenzhen Bay Control Point	255	255
Lok Ma Chau Control Point	17	17
Sha Tau Kok Control Point	22	22
Man Kam To Control Point	23	23
Outside boundary control points	2	2
Total	3 830	3 802
Quantity of powdered formulae involved (kg)	32 494	32 212

2017

	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions
Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point	2 323	2 319
Lo Wu Control Point	1 407	1 397
Shenzhen Bay Control Point	94	94
Lok Ma Chau Control Point	8	8
Sha Tau Kok Control Point	8	8
Man Kam To Control Point	6	6
Hung Hom Through Train Station	1	1
Outside boundary control points	1	0
Total	3 848	3 833
Quantity of powdered formulae involved (kg)	15 977	15 980

2018

	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions
Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point	2 444	2 435
Lo Wu Control Point	1 363	1 352
Shenzhen Bay Control Point	16	15
West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link	12	12
Lok Ma Chau Control Point	12	12
Sha Tau Kok Control Point	9	9
Man Kam To Control Point	6	6
Outside boundary control points	1	2
Total	3 863	3 843
Quantity of powdered formulae involved (kg)	26 055	25 960

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)453

(Question Serial No. 4238)

Head: (181) Trade and Industry Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) -

Programme: (2) Trade Support and Facilitation

Controlling Officer: Director-General of Trade and Industry (Salina YAN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In 2019-20, the Trade and Industry Department (TID) will keep in view the powdered formula export licensing arrangement and make adjustment as appropriate having regard to the outcome of review completed by the Food and Health Bureau on the export control of powdered formula in Hong Kong. Would the Government please advise:

1. the amount of powdered formula which have been granted export licence each year in the past 10 years (please tabulate by importers);
2. the summary of the relevant work and the estimated expenditure, as well as the staffing provision of the above work (please provide a breakdown of the manpower by posts).

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 57)

Reply:

Since the implementation of the powdered formula export licensing arrangement in March 2013, the quantities of powdered formulae involved in the export licences issued by the Trade and Industry Department (TID) each year, tabulated according to major export destinations, were as follows –

Major export destinations	Quantity of powdered formulae involved in export licences issued by TID (kilogram)					
	2013 (March to December)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Mainland	380 915	571 731	6 023 813	19 287 321	34 437 259	74 154 970
Macau	6 280 206	11 975 823	15 916 003	11 323 057	8 857 254	9 065 572

Major export destinations	Quantity of powdered formulae involved in export licences issued by TID (kilogram)					
	2013 (March to December)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Vietnam	2 381 914	1 074 139	162 817	98 233	30 915	163 103
Laos	0	0	0	0	0	46 656
France	43	0	29	12	3	4 050
Korea	95 004	4	5 684	0	81	1 265
The Netherlands	42 908	36 316	304	96	64	831
Singapore	4 575	74	21	164	6 850	411
Taiwan	94 393	16 407	230	28 898	171	276
Others	81 519	126 992	1 351	90 310	128	296
Total	9 361 477	13 801 486	22 110 252	30 828 091	43 332 725	83 437 430

Remarks: The above figures are the quantities of powdered formulae involved in the export licences issued by TID, and they may be different from the actual export volume for reasons such as exporters' ultimate decision to reduce the shipment quantity.

Given that the Food and Health Bureau made public in February 2019 that it had completed the review on the export control of powdered formulae and would maintain the relevant measure at this stage, TID will continue to assist in maintaining an effective powdered formula export licensing system. The estimated expenditure and staffing provision of the relevant work have been subsumed under the overall estimated expenditure and staffing provision of TID, and cannot be quantified separately.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**FHB(FE)454****(Question Serial No. 7283)**Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not specifiedProgramme: (1) Food Safety and Public HealthControlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and HealthQuestion:

Please set out in tabular form the respective numbers of cases, prosecutions and convictions related to raw meat smuggling, as well as the quantities of raw meat involved in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by control point.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 82)Reply:

The numbers of cases, prosecutions and convictions related to smuggling of meat (including fresh, chilled or frozen meat) referred by the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) in 2016, 2017 and 2018 are as follows –

	No. of cases referred by C&ED	No. of prosecutions	No. of convictions	Quantities of meat involved (kg)
2016				
By road	157	155	151	946
By sea	1	1	1	40
By air	31	4	4	265
Total	189	160	156	1 251
2017				
By road	153	148	142	1 799
By sea	0	0	0	0
By air	89	1	1	898
Total	242	149	143	2 697
2018				
By road	261	245	206	1 446
By sea	1	0	0	2
By air	117	0	0	1 089
Total	379	245	206	2 537

- End -