



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

[Translation]

14 May 2019

Clerk to Subcommittee on
Issues Relating to Public Markets
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Alice LEUNG)

Dear Ms LEUNG,

**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets**

Follow-up items to the meetings on 6 November 2018 and 21 January 2019

Regarding the follow-up items to the meetings on 6 November 2018 and 21 January 2019, I write to provide our response below.

Meeting on 6 November 2018

The latest development of the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP)

The Government submitted the discussion paper on “Further discussion on the modus operandi of the Market Modernisation Programme” at the meeting on

21 January 2019 to give an account of the latest development of the MMP. The pioneering project of the MMP is the fundamental overhaul of the Aberdeen Market. We are actively liaising with the market tenants and relevant stakeholders, with a view to reaching a consensus on the way forward as soon as possible. The arrangements for overhauling the Aberdeen Market can set a prototype for future similar projects. After the particulars of the Aberdeen Market project are finalised, we will prepare for carrying out fundamental overhaul for another three markets and refurbishment and minor improvements works for at least three markets, including renovation of internal facilities and enhancement of external walls, etc., and will, with reference to the actual situations, kick-start these projects progressively within this year with a view to improving the shopping and operating environment of these markets.

Meeting on 21 January 2019

(a) To provide further details about how the Rating and Valuation Department (RVD) assesses the reference rental of public markets;

According to the RVD, in assessing the reference rental of a market stall managed by the Food and Environment Hygiene Department (FEHD), the RVD generally adopts a comparative approach and mainly makes reference to the auction results of similar stalls in the same market or other FEHD markets. It also takes into account other relevant factors including the location and facilities of the market (e.g. whether it is air-conditioned), as well as the permitted trade, size, layout (e.g. whether there are column structures in the stall) and position of the stall within the market (e.g. whether it is located at a junction). The assessment results serve as a reference for FEHD to determine upset price for auction.

(b) To provide detailed arrangements of stakeholder engagement regarding the management reform of public markets by FEHD, in order to enhance the vibrancy of public markets;

Stakeholder engagement would be an important aspect in the process of taking forward the management reform of public markets. During the process, we will consider the views of respective stakeholders, which in general include consulting the Market Management Consultative Committee, to ensure that the future concrete management measures are in the overall interest of the community.

Taking into account also the circumstances of different types of markets (new markets, markets under the MMP and other existing markets), we will carry out the review tasks and consider how to take forward the specific measures of the management reform of public markets in a pragmatic, prudent and reasonable manner.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

(Miss Irene CHEUNG)

for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Attn: Mr Gordon WU)