



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 December 2018

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**

**Suspension of Open Auction of Public Market Stalls**

Thank you for your letter of 1 November 2018, enclosing the letter from Hon HO Kai-ming to the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets. I write to provide our response below.

It was announced in this year's Budget that \$2 billion would be earmarked for launching a 10-year Market Modernisation Programme (MMP) with a view to providing the public with better municipal facilities and services. In its implementation, individual works projects may involve extensive modifications of existing facilities and require temporary full closure of the markets concerned. As the affected tenants cannot continue their business in the original markets during or

after completion of the works, these tenants have to permanently or temporarily relocate to vacant stalls of other markets to continue their business. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) therefore plans to reserve sufficient vacant stalls for relocating the affected tenants so that they can continue their business as far as possible. Such arrangement is in line with the practice of reserving stalls for affected stall operators to continue their business where improvement works were carried out in individual public markets in the past.

Nevertheless, we understand Hon HO's concerns about the relevant arrangements. FEHD is reviewing the relevant arrangements and will consider how to meet the needs of the stall operators who need to relocate due to the MMP implementation while at the same time putting the vacant stalls of existing public markets to good use. We will announce the relevant arrangements in due course.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

(Miss Irene CHEUNG)

for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene